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Tajikistan Asks Russia To Reinforce Military Division

The Government of Tajikistan, in a bid for external military support, has asked the Russian Federation "to provide assistance with the observance on the territory of the republic of the provisions of the Helsinki Final Act and also other norms and principles of international law, to give the appropriate instructions to troops of the Russian Federation deployed on the territory of sovereign Tajikistan, and to take all steps to prevent incidents involving the seizure of combat equipment by anti-government groups," reports Dushanbe radio. Specifically, the note from the Tajik Foreign Ministry requests "assistance in the form of the urgent provision of personnel to the 201st Motor Rifle Division so that its strength can be increased to ensure the security and protection of the lives of citizens of all nationalities living in the Republic of Tajikistan."

The Russian Government responded swiftly; seven military aircraft reportedly landed in Dushanbe late on the night of 28 September, according to Dushanbe radio. The commander of the 201st Division told INTERFAX that "now the division will have a full staff for peaceful times and will be capable of guaranteeing the security of the garrison, weapons and hardware" but "stressed that under no circumstances should the personnel of the Russian division be used as a separating force in settling the conflict."

Yeltsin, Shevardnadze Discuss Abkhazia Conflict; Set 13 October Meeting

Russian President Yeltsin and Georgian State Council Chairman Shevardnadze met yesterday in Moscow for an hour to discuss the progress made in implementing the Russian-Georgian-Abkhaz agreement reached on 3 September, according to ITAR-TASS. The two leaders decided to meet again with Abkhaz leaders on 13 October, after the 11 October Georgian elections. Shevardnadze reportedly "expressed satisfaction with the results of his meeting" with Yeltsin, noting that he believed Yeltsin "had nothing to do with the document issued by the Russian parliament" concerning Georgian actions in Abkhazia, reports Radio Rossii. According to Shevardnadze, "Moscow has no clear-cut political stance on the Caucasus."

Yeltsin Chairs Session on New Government Structure

Russian President Boris Yeltsin today chaired a meeting of the government's collegium in the Kremlin during which the new structure of the Russian Federation Government was discussed, ITAR-TASS reports. The proposed plan "considerably reduces" the number of central executive power bodies—from 131 to 73. The number of ministries and state committees would be cut from 36 to 30. This includes abolishing the Ministry of Industry and replacing it with a state committee for industrial policy. The stated task of the government and the new bodies that are being set up "is not to command branches and enterprises, but to determine the economic policy and assist the development of market relations between free commodity producers." A "corresponding decree" has been prepared by President Yeltsin and "will be published shortly."

Latvian Officials Protest Russian Submarine Sales in Riga

Latvian State Minister Janis Dinevics and Deputy Interior Minister Martins Virsis, meeting with foreign ambassadors to Riga, "protested against Russia using Latvian territory for submarine trade," reports BALTFAX. "According to the Latvian Foreign Ministry, during the past two years Russia has signed deals on the sale of submarines stationed in Latvia with Iraq, Libya and Iran."

Defense Ministers To Meet in Bishkek 7 Oct

LD2809214192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2107 GMT 28 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Andrey Naryshkin]

[Text] Moscow September 29 TASS—Council of Defense Ministers of the Commonwealth countries suggests that heads of state should consider in Bishkek draft agreements on the chief command of the Commonwealth Joint Armed Forces, a conception of military security and an issue on strategic forces, Lieutenant-General Leonid Ivashov, secretary of the Council, told ITAR-TASS today. All these documents were discussed at a level of military and diplomatic departments and will be finally elaborated at a meeting of the Council of Defense Ministers on October 7 in Bishkek, on the eve of a Commonwealth summit meeting.

As far as a draft of a conception of military security is concerned, it is based on guidelines regulating joint actions of the Commonwealth countries in the defense sphere. The majority of these provisions were already approved by the Council of Heads of State and are reflected in the corresponding treaties and agreements or were coordinated at a level of the Council of Defense Ministers. These provisions are brought together in a certain system and to a maximum degree take into account principles of military doctrines of every member state of the Commonwealth. The strategic forces are taken beyond the framework of this conception as positions of Russia, Ukraine, Belarus and Kazakhstan differ on this issue. It is a matter of not creating a new military and political bloc, but an attempt to legally consolidate some key principles of the military policy of the Commonwealth, General Ivashov stressed.

An issue on the Chief Command of the Commonwealth Joint Armed Forces is raised in connection with the serious changes in military structures, the creation of the national defense ministries practically in all Commonwealth countries, including Russia. In accordance with a draft of a new agreement, the Chief Command will be recognized as an inter-state body with a corresponding international immunity. Its major tasks are to coordinate joint efforts of the Commonwealth countries in ensuring peace and security, assist in the settlement of conflicts and differences in military and political relations and create conditions for maintaining strategic stability and the implementation of the Commonwealth countries' international commitments in the field of disarmament and arms control.

It is planned that Marshal Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov, commander-in-chief of the Commonwealth Joint Armed Forces, will inform the Council of Heads of State of the present situation concerning the strategic forces. The character of differences between members of the "four nuclear states" is well known. However, it is necessary to note "considerable positive advances", specifically, in the position of Ukraine, the general stressed.

It is scheduled to hold the first session of the Council of Collective Security within the framework of the Commonwealth summit meeting, which might discuss a candidature for the post of its secretary-general. Heads of state—parties to the treaty on collective security agreed that a "candidate will be a representative of Kazakhstan", Lieutenant-General Leonid Ivashov said. Besides, the session is expected to consider an issue on the implementation of the provisions of the Treaty on Collective Security and plan the further activities of its higher executive body, the general pointed out.

Shaposhnikov, Nazarbayev Discuss Bishkek Issues

OW2609195692 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1912 GMT 26 Sep 92

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev and the Commander-in-Chief of the CIS Joint Armed Forces, Marshal Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov, have had a meeting in Moscow today, discussing the events in Tajikistan, Georgia, Armenia, and Azerbaijan, as well as the progress of the preparation work for the October 9 CIS summit in Bishkek.

They also discussed Ukraine's recent statement to the effect that it wishes to remain a nuclear power, a desire which, as Nazarbayev told our special correspondent Vyacheslav Terekhov in an exclusive interview, "contradicts earlier statements made by the leaders of that republic." "They said more than once that they wanted Ukraine to become a nuclear-free state as soon as possible. We need more clarity on the issue," Nazarbayev said.

Shaposhnikov expressed the hope that the constructive position of Kazakhstan, Russia, and Belarus on strategic nuclear armaments will make the Ukrainian leaders question their decision. "Ukraine shouldn't say one thing today and another tomorrow. Neither we nor the rest of the world can understand this," the marshal said.

He said he had sent telegrams to the Presidents of Azerbaijan and Armenia inviting them to request the CIS Council of Heads of State to send peace-keeping forces to Nagorno-Karabakh. Such a request would be granted, he said.

Document on Aligning Legislation in CIS States

PM2909092992 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 19 Sep 92 First Edition p 2

["Basic Guidelines for Rapprochement Between the National Legislation of the Commonwealth Member States," signed by CIS Assembly Council Chairman R. Khasbulatov in Bishkek on 15 September]

[Text] The Interparliamentary Assembly of the CIS member states recognizes the need to provide legal support for a common economic space within the framework of the Commonwealth and prevent and eliminate

juridical conflicts in the process of regulating social and other processes. The Interparliamentary Assembly sets itself the goal of assisting by every means the creation of the most favorable and equal legal conditions for the development of enterprise, economic activity, and free trade throughout the Commonwealth, economic security, and also the creation of common guarantees of citizens' rights.

1. The Interparliamentary Assembly deems it advisable to bring about a rapprochement between national legislation in the following areas:

—the status and general conditions of the activity of enterprises and other economic entities;

—legal support for common energy networks and nuclear power engineering;

—legal regulation of interstate transport networks;

—conditions for the movement of goods and financial resources between states and common procedures for mutual settlements;

—customs rules and tariffs;

—basic conditions for the movement of the work force and guarantees of the labor and social rights of employees;

—conditions and regulations for the exchange of information between states;

—basic principles for the rational exploitation of national resources and for ecological security;

—foreign economic activity, including foreign investments and currency regulation;

—inventions, discoveries, industrial models, and trademarks.

2. It is recommended that activity to bring about rapprochement between national legislation be based on common concepts and be carried out in a coordinated fashion, as far as possible ensuring that the corresponding acts are adopted at the same time.

3. With the aim of eliminating contradictions between national legislation, the Interparliamentary Assembly and the Supreme Soviets (parliaments) will use such forms of work as: recommended (model) legislative acts of the Interparliamentary Assembly, mutual exchange of information on legislative acts after adoption or, where necessary, during preparation, joint discussion of legislation issues, examination of questions of rapprochement between legislation in Commonwealth coordination institutions, scientific conferences and recommendations from academics on ways and means of bringing about rapprochement between legislation.

4. In the event of the discovery of substantive differences in legislative regulation which hinder the formation and functioning of a unified market, a consultative conference of the chairmen of Supreme Soviets (parliaments) is to determine the timetable and procedure for preparing proposals to overcome these differences.

5. In view of the important role of legally binding acts in the legal regulation of relations in the member states of the CIS, the Council of Commonwealth Heads of State is to be instructed to discuss ways and means of coordinating and aligning the legally binding acts as far as their jurisdiction applies.

[Signed] Assembly Council Chairman R. Khasbulatov

[Issued in] Bishkek, 15 September 1992

Foreign Ministers To Be Invited to Moscow

LD2809172592 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1600 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Text] Russia's leadership intends to invite the heads of foreign ministries of CIS countries to Moscow in the next few days, in order to make effective preparations for the upcoming Bishkek meeting of the heads of states and governments of the CIS, due on 9 October, an INTERFAX correspondent has learned from sources close to the Russian cabinet. The date of 5 October has been mentioned as a possible date for the meeting of the CIS foreign ministers.

Serious Safety Defects in Nuclear Power Stations

LD2709095592 Berlin DDP in German 0801 GMT 27 Sep 92

[Text] Hamburg (DDP)—Half of all the nuclear power stations in operation in the CIS have serious safety defects, according to a report by the Russian Security Ministry. The nuclear power stations in St. Petersburg, Smolensk, and Kursk are particularly dangerous, according to a report by the Hamburg-based BILD newspaper (Saturday's edition), citing the secret study. Even in the less dangerous nuclear power stations the number of accidents has been "relatively high."

The quality of the equipment in the nuclear power stations is bad, the report says, according to BILD. Some of the measuring equipment and electrical plants are of 1950's and 1960's standards. Additionally, preparation of personnel for emergencies is "at a low level." The greatest worry is the fire precaution situation at most of the nuclear power stations. In the report criticism is also made of the fact that the "proposed measures to improve security" that were made after the reactor accident in Chernobyl have still not been put into practice.

N. Fleet Commander 'Concerned' by NATO Moves

OW2809162592 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1521 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] INTERFAX has learned from military sources that at the meeting in Severomorsk September 17 with the USMC

Commandant General Carl Mundy, Admiral Oleg Yerofeyev, CinC Northern Fleet, had to draw the attention of the US side to NATO increasing its intelligence activities in the Barents Sea waters and expressed concern over the NATO troops recent exercise in Northern Norway in close proximity to the Russian state borders.

General Carl Mundy described US approach to this situation and expressed his understanding of concern over these facts on the part of the Russian Northern Fleet command.

The US military delegation was hosted by the "Admiral Nakhimov" nuclear-powered missile cruiser and visited the premises of the Northern Fleet marine brigade.

ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 26 Sep

LD2509070892 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0544 GMT 26 Sep 92

[Text] Moscow September 26 ITAR-TASS—Russian newspapers do not publish today the materials about the work of the regular session of the Russian parliament. Only SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA point out that "some 400 representatives of the Abkhazian, Abazine, Cherkes, Ossetian, Ezgin, Karachaevo-Cherkes, Russian and other nations inhabiting the northern Caucasus are picketing the White House, where the parliament is discussing behind closed doors the situation in the northern Caucasus in connection with the Abkhazian-Georgia conflict." "We expect the parliament to give an impartial assessment of what has taken place in Abkhazia, to pass a resolution that will rule out a possibility of the use of force," Chairman of the Abkhazian Parliament Vladislav Ardzinba, who was also in the picketing line, told SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA.

PRAVDA carries an article entitled "Bosnia's shadow over Caucasus", in which it analyses the problem of ethnocracy in the CIS member states. The newspaper writes that "there are many indications of the fact that tough ethnocratic regimes—from Moldova to Georgia—that were created so recently, are not viable and ineffective. Nationalism in the economic sphere is a futile undertaking, a way to nowhere."

PRAVDA describes the situation, in which Russian diplomats found themselves after the cancellation of President Yeltsin's visit to Japan, as "diplomatic Chernobyl". The newspaper analyses the factors that led to that situation. Describing all aspects of the fact, which "looks extraordinary, really scandalous, outside the framework of diplomatic etiquette", PRAVDA comes to the conclusion that the lack of professionalism among Russian diplomats is the reason for that unusual situation. "The Gorby period, the period of new political thinking, paved the way to amateurs, to those who love improvisation. Incompetents have replaced professionals. Unfortunately, the situation remains the same during the Bobby period," PRAVDA writes.

KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA carries an article by V. Prokhvatilov entitled "What should we do to make life in CIS more comfortable?". "Against the background of more and more fierce struggle for power in the Russian leadership, public opinion has not yet appreciated to the full the latest initiatives of the Kazakh president, aimed at bringing CIS member states closer together. It is not surprising, however. The Soviet empire collapsed only in the imagination of those who attach too much importance to the symbols of statehood and pay no attention to the economy, which is its real foundation. The backbone of the Soviet socialist economy has been preserved and, consequently, the corresponding economic interests were preserved too," the newspaper writes. More and more CIS leaders come to realise it.

"The main reason for the participation in the August developments (the abortive coup attempt) for me and, I think, for other members of the State Emergency Committee was the desire to prevent the disintegration of the Soviet Union," said Gennadiy Yanayev. The former USSR vice president, who is now kept in the "Sailor's Repose" Prison in Moscow, gave an interview to PRAVDA which is published today.

Touching upon the relationship between Yeltsin and Gorbachev, he said that "personal ambitions and boundless craving for power are at the root of their ineradicable dislike and hostility towards each other, interrupted by short spells of ostentatious reconciliation, which was nothing but a camouflage."

For 29 Sep

LD2909102392 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0616 GMT 29 Sep 92

["Press Review"—ITAR-TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow September 29 TASS—A tense situation in the North Caucasus and the Transcaucasus as well as the situation in Tajikistan are the focus of attention in the morning editions of today's Moscow-based newspapers.

The negotiating process between Georgia and Abkhazia has reached a deadlock, KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA believes. "The two sides have bogged down while the armed conflict is turning into a slow-pace civil war", the newspaper points out.

Besides, PRAVDA notes, "the war in Abkhazia has undermined the situation in the North Caucasus. A state of emergency was imposed and blood is being spilled even in the Kabardian-Balkar Republic which until recently managed to tackle all complex issues through a dialogue and by peaceful means. Russia has been in point of fact confronted with the choice: either a new Caucasian war or the beginning of a break-up of the Russian state".

KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA, analysing the Georgian-Abkhazian conflict in the light of confrontation between various forces in the Caucasian region, observes that "with every passing day of the stay of Eduard Shevardnadze in office, the leaders who determine the

frame of mind among the top leadership of the United Nations Organisation, the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation are increasingly willing to have Georgia as their focal point in the Caucasian region and the adjacent ones".

SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA maintains that "Russia should urgently get out of the Transcaucasian quagmire, fix the main Caucasian range as a geopolitical and state border and, following that, regard the Transcaucasus as a kind of sanitary cordon or a buffer zone. Russian interests in the Transcaucasus should be reduced to the defence of Russians in the region."

Sceptics' forecast as to the fate of the accords, concluded in Sochi a week ago, on a ceasefire in Nagorno-Karabakh are beginning to come true, NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA (The Independent newspaper) observes.

"Following the signing of the Sochi agreement, the situation in the Nagorno-Karabakh and in the border area between the two republics has become sharply aggravated," points out PRAVDA, maintaining that the ceasefire agreement simply served as a signal to toughen the combat operations of the warring sides.

All newspapers report the drawing of Russian troops into the armed conflict in Tajikistan in view of the driving away of several tanks and combat infantry vehicles from Russian units stationed there.

KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA emphasises that "the present sharp aggravation of the situation may have most serious consequences to both the republican leadership, who have not managed to take control of the situation, and to the future of Tajik-Russian relations".

NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA points out straightforwardly that the involvement of the Russian Army's combat hardware in clashes "was viewed in the republic as Russia's direct military intervention in the internal conflict in Tajikistan."

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA (Red Star) warns that Tajikistan runs the risk of turning into a new Afghanistan in the near future if other CIS partners do not intervene in the conflict.

Arkadiy Volskiy, leader of the Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs and of the Civil Union, has contributed an article to RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA, calling for the restoration of a state economic regulation system, although he does not deny in principle the idea of a market economy.

But at this stage, Volskiy believes, the essence of the government's practical actions must be in "saving the economy from self-disintegration" and that "the focus should be shifted to the sphere of microeconomics, to the level of actual production".

The year 1991 saw a reduction in the export of Soviet arms by a factor of 13 compared to the level of the 1980s, NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA writes. The newspaper carries official Soviet arms export data for the past year, which have been made public for the first time. The arms exports ran at a total of 1.55 billion U.S. dollars. Commenting on the data, the newspaper points out that in the 1980s the Soviet Union annually exported 20 billion dollars worth of weapons.

Many a newspaper sums up the results of yet another week of hearings in Russia's Constitutional Court on the "Soviet Communist Party case". As SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA has put it, last week's court sessions resembled, rather, scientific debates because they were fully devoted to experts' testimony.

NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA remarks in this connection that "the sides are much more inclined to hearing political scientists, historians and philosophers than legal scholars whose speeches are are equally unattractive or, perhaps, disagreeable to the sides".

The newspaper believes that "for the time being the court has no firm position for the passage of the only right verdict".

TRUD carries an interview with V. Tumanov, an expert, Dr. of Science (Law), who has been invited by the court. Tumanov believes that "the situation is clearing up. The hearings proceed in a calm and unemotional atmosphere".

From January 1, next year, onwards, Russian citizens will no longer need to obtain exit visas for travel abroad, Vasily Vinogradov, head of the consular service of the Russian Foreign Ministry, announced, NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA reports.

Vinogradov believes that, after the exit and entry law takes effect at the beginning of 1993, the number of those eager to get passports for travel abroad will immediately mount up to 15-20 million.

Yeltsin, Shevardnadze Hold Hour-Long Meeting

LD2809171392 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1632 GMT 28 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Gennadiy Talalayev]

[Text] Moscow, 28 Sep—Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Eduard Shevardnadze, chairman of the Georgian State Council, had a tete-a-tete meeting in the Kremlin. They spoke for one hour.

According to Vyacheslav Kostikov, the Russian president's press secretary, Boris Yeltsin and Eduard Shevardnadze discussed the progress made in implementing the final document signed on 3 September in Moscow at a meeting about the Georgian-Abkhaz conflict. The Russian and Georgian leaders agreed to have regular contacts in order to try to find a settlement to the crisis. They also agreed to hold the next meeting on 13 October, following the Georgian elections. The participants will be the same as in the Moscow meeting on 3 September.

Vyacheslav Kostikov said that in the very near future there will be an intensification of measures aimed at protecting the railway going through the territory of Abkhazia. With that aim, the Russian troops stationed there will be reinforced.

Boris Yeltsin and Eduard Shevardnadze agreed that Georgia would withdraw heavy military equipment from the conflict zone.

Shevardnadze Satisfied With Talks

LD2809190192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1844 GMT 28 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Igor Gvrtishvili]

[Text] Moscow September 28 TASS—Eduard Shevardnadze, head of the Georgian State Council, expressed satisfaction with the results of his meeting with Russian President Boris Yeltsin on Monday [28 September].

Speaking at a news conference after the meeting, Shevardnadze said Yeltsin attaches great importance to the implementation of agreements concerning the Abkhazian conflict reached in Moscow and Sochi.

Both leaders reached agreement on "some additional measures on the implementation of earlier agreements." However, Shevardnadze did not specify what measures will be taken.

The meeting was held at Georgia's request in connection with the resolution recently adopted by the Russian Parliament, which practically revised agreements on the Abkhazian conflict reached in Moscow on September 3.

Shevardnadze described Yeltsin as a firm and determined follower of economic and democratic reforms in Russia, adding that he "has no big concerns about statements and resolutions by the Russian Parliament, since they are advisory, while presidential decisions are final."

The Georgian leader said he had met with U.N. Secretary-General Butrus Butrus-Ghali during his recent visit to New York City, adding that the U.N. chief may soon come up with important initiatives on ways to settle the conflict in the Caucasus.

Speaking about the situation in Georgia, Shevardnadze expressed confidence that parliamentary elections in the republic will take place as planned on October 11, adding that voting in troubled spots will be organised as soon as the situation allows there.

Shevardnadze on Moscow's Caucasus Policy

LD2809205192 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 2000 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Text] If the provisions of the recent resolution on Abkhazia by the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet are to be implemented, Georgia will demand that all Russian troops be withdrawn from its territory. This was stated by Georgian State Council Chairman Eduard Shevardnadze at a news conference held today after the meeting with the Russian president. At the same time, according to Shevardnadze, he came to a conclusion during his meeting with Boris Yeltsin that the Russian president had nothing to do with the document issued by the Russian Parliament, and that he disagrees with some of ts provisions. Having expressed an opinion that Moscow has no clear-cut political stance on the Caucasus, the Georgian leader said he believes that it is the Russian president who makes the final decision.

Japan Agrees To Grant $100 Million Credit

LD2809170192 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1500 GMT 28 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Ivan Ivanov]

[Text] Moscow, 28 Sep (TASS)—Documents concerning the granting of credit to Russia by Japan totalling $100 million were signed today by Petr Aven, Russian Federation foreign economic relations minister, and Sumio Edamura, Japanese ambassador in Russia.

Answering a question from an ITAR-TASS correspondent after the signing ceremony, Petr Aven explained that "Japan is granting Russia a three-year commodity credit, which will be used to buy a number of goods in Japan, first of all foodstuffs and consumer goods."

The minister also said that obtaining this credit is a condition for the granting by Japan of an even greater credit worth $500 million. "Now, when we have concluded work on the $100 million credit, work can be started on the $500 million," he added.

Concerning Boris Yeltsin's postponed visit to Japan, Sumio Edamura told journalists that "in Japan, there was no anti-Russian hysteria that was allegedly an obstacle" to the visit by the president of the Russian Federation going ahead. "Today's signing of the document on granting credit demonstrates that the Japanese side will

treat with restraint all problems" in bilateral relations, he said. The ambassador also noted that "Japan would like in the future to exert efforts to improve bilateral relations with Russia," and expressed hope that the postponement of the visit will not be lengthy and that Boris Yeltsin's visit will be successful.

It follows from the documents signed today that Russia will use the $100 million credit to pay for the following goods and their delivery to ports in the Russian Federation: cocoa butter substitute, sausage skins, medicines and medical equipment, raw materials for pharmaceuticals, packaging materials for foodstuffs and the tobacco industry, acetate filters for cigarettes, and veterinary preparations.

Shokhin Says Differences With IMF To Be Settled

OW2809173392 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1706 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Russia and the World Bank, "judging from everything, will overcome their legal differences and reach an agreement" regarding the signing of an agreement to give $600 mn [million] in rehabilitative credits to Russia. This was announced to journalists by Vice Premier Aleksandr Shokhin after his return from the United States Monday [28 September], where he took part in the yearly session of the Council of IMF Directors and in negotiations with the Paris Club.

Shokhin confirmed that an agreement on the deferment of the Russian foreign debt could be signed no earlier than the second half of October and that in any case Russia would not be able to pay creditor countries more than $2.5 - $3 mn a year.

Shokhin also reported that the Russian government and the American corporation "Rand" plan to collaborate on four projects in the social sphere. He said the projects involved an assessment of the situation in Russia regarding domestic and foreign emigration; the condition of labor resources before the structural reforms in economics; public health and medical insurance programs; and the educational system.

The Vice Premier said that bi-lateral negotiations concerning the U.S.'s suspension of the anti-dumping investigation on Russian uranium. [sentence as received] According to INTERFAX information, the parties plan to sign an agreement by which Washington will refrain from leveling high export tarrifs in exchange for Russia's pledge to strictly control the export of uranium.

Kozyrev Praises CIS Performance at UN Session

LD2909084692 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0220 GMT 29 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Menkes]

[Text] United Nations, 29 Sep (ITAR-TASS)—Russian Foreign Minister A. V. Kozyrev, who is heading the Russian delegation at the 47th UN General Assembly session, left New York for Moscow on 28 September.

"The main tendency which was manifested with regard to Russia at the current session is that they are prepared to receive us into the world community in our new capacity," the minister stated on the eve of his departure in a conversation with a group of journalists. "They are prepared to receive us as a power that is striving for normality, that is in fact a great power and which, along with some other states, bears particular responsibility for the state of affairs in its region and in the world as a whole."

"The session has confirmed that there is no reasonable alternative to our open policy, a policy calculated to defend and promote our own interests in all spheres—political, economic, and social." It is impossible to achieve this in any other way except by cooperation with other countries, first and foremost with the most highly developed, in any other way except by means of good-neighborliness with our closest neighbors, and finally, there is no other way except by means of constructive cooperation with all other states. "No one needs us to occupy ourselves with disparaging ourselves and leaving the international community."

The session also showed that our economic needs require efforts directed at active international cooperation. "Naturally, only we can resolve our problems, no one can do that for us. But we do not have the possibility of regenerating our own economy without cooperation, without entering the world economy. In a word, the pragmatic concern about our own interests requires an active global foreign policy, but realizing our interest by means of cooperation and not by means of confrontation.

What role does the community of nations intend to play in resolving the recent and very dangerous conflicts in which nationalism is so heavily involved? one of the correspondents asked. The minister answered that "there are two options for resolving nationality problems. One is the Yugoslav, as chosen by the old Belgrade leadership, meaning strong-arm tactics. This means relying on the use of soldiers, on ethnically pure states and on ethnic cleansing. This is what our national patriots and national democrats are advocating." "That is the road to national catastrophe, the road to international isolation. We can see this in Yugoslavia's case." "But there is another way," the minister continued, "and we have already been proceeding along it for some time. It is a very difficult way and also requires firmness of purpose, but it is the only sensible way. It entails invoking civilized means of defense against conflicts and against nationalism. For the first time, we have raised this issue to international prominence, and I think that the response has been positive. This response has been forces to uphold and establish peace. We have proposed giving these forces broader powers than before, including the right to open fire if attacked. This key issue also contains proposals from the United States that mainly concern specific organizational matters. And finally,

there is defense of minorities' rights through strengthening international mechanisms. These are all means that the civilized world can and should mobilize against reliance on coercion. This is the way to enhance international prestige, to civilized relations, to our country winning its worthy place in the world." A. V. Kozyrev said that he is pleased with the "debut performances" of the ex-Soviet republics, now independent states, at the session. "First, it is quite clear that the Commonwealth of Independent States does exist," he said. "The world knows this, and knows that it is not a commonwealth on the brink of divorce, that it is a commonwealth that will develop gradually, albeit with difficulty." It does, of course, have a mass of problems, but then it has only been in existence for half a year. "I was also very impressed with how the CIS countries came to the United Nations with feelings of respect for the community of nations, with a strong desire to involve themselves in its existing structures, and a willingness to cooperate with the other countries in the CIS," the minister stressed.

Foreign Ministry Spokesman Assesses UN Session

OW2909014492 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1556 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Report by diplomatic correspondents A. Borodin, I. Porshnev, and others from "Diplomatic Panorama"; following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Sergey Yastrzembskiy, director of the press and information department of Russia's Foreign Ministry, who returned from New York recently, has positively assessed the initial phase of the 47th U.N. General Assembly session. The session is taking place in the qualitatively new conditions of a "post-confrontational, post-communist world", he told DP's [Diplomatic Panorama] correspondent.

Judging by debates at the General Assembly session, the world community realizes that the danger of a global catastrophe has considerably receded. New opportunities have emerged, and new problems along with them. This involves in particular local wars "threatening to engulf whole regions". They include conflicts in the formerly Soviet republics which adjoin Russia.

According to S. Yastrzembskiy, the Russian proposals expressed by Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev in his speech for the General Assembly take into account the new realities. "To some people they may have seemed not as universal as those advanced by the foreign ministers of the former USSR." However, the Russian diplomat said, the time of such "global and often propagandistic initiatives" belongs to the past.

The Russian delegation focused on the major problems faced by the U.N., such as the need to vigorously counteract nationalism and protect human rights, including the rights of ethnic minorities, on a global scale. Russia believes that with this aim in view the world community could use the concept and mechanism of trusteeship included in the U.N. Charter at one time to combat colonialism. In the new circumstances they could be supplemented.

In New York the Russian delegation raised an extremely urgent issue: the situation of Russian-speakers in some formerly Soviet republics, primarily in Estonia and Latvia. "In our view, if they continue their present policy, the two Baltic states might slide into the practice of ethnic cleansing". According to S. Yastrzembskiy, Russia will categorically object to this, using "all the instruments of international law" and involving international organizations, such as the U.N.

S. Yastrzembskiy described as "extremely important" Russia's call for expanding the mandate of the U.N. peace-keeping forces and for granting them the right to open return fire. Without this the "blue helmets" can hardly accomplish their tasks effectively. "An unarmed policeman is not in a position to ensure security for people when an armed bandit confronts them." S. Yastrzembskiy dwelled in detail on Russia's attitude to Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro). This attitude helped to avoid Yugoslavia's total exclusion from the system of U.N. institutions, on which the Muslim and some Western countries insisted. As a result it became possible to avoid extremes and maintain different forms of links between the U.N. and Yugoslavia. "A flexible formula was devised to enable Yugoslavia's Prime Minister Milan Panic to materialize his peaceful intentions." The resolution concerning Yugoslavia adopted by the U.N. can "easily be viewed as an asset of young Russian diplomacy".

Kozyrev Pays Unofficial Visit to Washington

LD2809233792 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 2220 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Report by ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Matyash]

[Text] Washington, 29 Sep—Russian Federation Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev, who took part in the work of the latest session of the UN General Assembly in New York, paid a brief unofficial visit to Washington on Monday [28 September].

A. Kozyrev arrived in the U.S. capital to exchange views on questions of the international situation and the state of Russian- U.S. relations with his old acquaintances. In particular, in the White House, he met with and had a friendly conversation with former U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, the president's chief of staff.

A luncheon was given in Washington's International Club in honor of Russia's foreign minister. Zbigniew Brzezinski, former U.S. Presidential aide on national security; prominent U.S. political scientists; and other representatives of United States' academic circles were present.

From Washington, A. Kozyrev flew out to New York from where, on Monday evening, he left on a special flight to Moscow.

Kozyrev, Eagleburger Discuss Further Disarmament

LD2609174492 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1005 GMT 25 Sep 92

[Text] New York September 25 TASS—Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev had a meeting here on Thursday [24 September] with U.S. Acting Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger. They discussed mostly the problems dealing with a further reduction of strategic offensive armaments.

The main parametres of those reductions are recorded in the framework agreement, signed by the Russian and U.S. presidents last June. Now Kozyrev and Eagleburger discussed the treaties to be concluded on its basis. According to representatives of the Russian delegation, the two sides agreed that the Russian-American draft treaty on further reductions of strategic offensive armaments would be worked out on a political level. Eagleburger told journalists immediately after the talks that he and Kozyrev would continue this work in the near future, although he could not give them the date and place of their next meeting.

According to Eagleburger, they discussed a lot of other problems, aside from the reduction of strategic offensive armaments, specifically, the Yugoslav problem and the situation in that country, as well as the situation in the hotbeds of tension on the territory of the new Commonwealth. We discussed the Baltic states, touching upon the military presence there and Russia's concern over the observance of rights of the Russian-speaking minority there, he said.

Kozyrev Meets Human Rights Representatives

LD2709160092 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0310 GMT 26 sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Menkes]

[Excerpt] United Nations, 26 Sep—An unusual meeting took place on 25 September evening at Russia's permanent mission at the United Nations. Russian Foreign Affairs Minister A.V. Kozyrev met with a group of representatives of human rights organizations.

The minister stressed that the efforts of these organizations have, to a considerable extent, contributed to the victory of the democratic forces in Russia. At the same time he pointed out that the country is now at a transitionary stage. For the moment it is still impossible to say that all tasks in this sphere have been resolved. At the same time we proceed from the fact that human rights are universal in their nature, and their violation cannot be justified by any national standards.

At the same time, the minister went on to stress, I would like to draw your attention to new problems in this sphere. To be more correct, these problems are not new, but during a long time, in the conditions of totalitarianism, they remained in the shade. Today there exists a threat of nationalism. Ethnic minorities are demanding special attention for themselves. The question arises of the need to protect them. The Baltic countries are sliding toward the practice of "ethnic cleansing." In response to this voices are also being heard in Russia calling for the use of force.

It is believed that this is a problem of the Russians living in the republics of the former USSR, A.V. Kozyrev went on to say. But this is incorrect. It involves those who either speak Russian or feel themselves to be Russians. This is a matter of the protection of democracy in Russia. In general this problem is acquiring a global dimension.

The human rights organizations' representatives expressed gratitude to the minister for the opportunity to meet with him and discuss human rights problems. One of the participants of the meeting noted that in previous years he had repeatedly come to the Soviet mission building in order to take part in protest demonstrations against human rights violations in the USSR. But today Russia is completely different, and we are meeting inside this building and holding a conversation.

A. Schneider, one of the prominent figures of the human rights movement, pointed out that millions of Russians are living in the former union republics. Having stressed that many of them were resettled there during Stalin's time within the framework of the process of Russification, he noted with regret that now these very same people are becoming "scapegoats." [passage omitted]

Kozyrev Meets With German Foreign Minister

LD2409215892 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2047 GMT 24 Sep 92

[Text] United Nations September 25 TASS—Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev met with German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel in New York on Thursday [24 September].

They discussed some aspects of Russian-German relations, which will be included in the agenda of the forthcoming bilateral talks in Moscow.

The two foreign ministers discussed, in particular, paying off compensation to Russian victims of Nazi persecutions.

The two ministers' forthcoming meeting in Moscow is to prepare German Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl's visit to Moscow, which is expected to impart new impetus to comprehensive bilateral cooperation.

Scowcroft Meets Shokhin, Shumeyko, Voices Support

PM2809135792 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Sep 92 Morning Edition p 1

[Aleksandr Shalnev report: "U.S. Administration 'Fully Supports' Yeltsin and Gaydar"]

[Text] Washington—The U.S. Administration "fully supports Yegor Gaydar, not to mention President

Yeltsin," Brent Scowcroft, President Bush's assistant for national security affairs, stated at a meeting at the White House with Vice Premiers Vladimir Shumeyko and Aleksandr Shokhin. The vice premiers are heading our delegation at the IMF and World Bank conference.

Scowcroft stated that Washington understands that the Russian Government is encountering difficulties, but that "it is making every effort to proceed with its chosen course." According to a report from informed sources, the president's assistant "expressed no serious skepticism about the situation in Russia, but neither was he unreservedly optimistic." I cannot fail to note that of President Bush's closest advisers, General Scowcroft was always of a skeptical turn of mind with regard to the implementation of the reforms in Russia and the level of Boris Yeltsin's commitment to them.

However, the main topics of the meeting at the White House were not problems of a general nature—does the administration support us or not—but extremely substantial and specific issues: What is the situation regarding the export of uranium to the United States from former Union countries, which has basically been blocked by the administration; and what is to be done about Russia's foreign debt?

The situation regarding the uranium deliveries is extremely serious: Under the pretext that we are attempting to send in uranium at dumping prices, the United States has slapped a 116 percent customs duty on our exporters. As a result, Aleksandr Shokhin stated, "we are losing tens and even hundreds of millions of dollars, and, moreover, we are running up against the threat of stoppages at the enterprises where the uranium is processed—with all the social consequences that ensuing from this."

Our delegation actively tried to secure a meeting with U.S. Secretary of Commerce B. Franklin in order to discuss with her a way to resolve this problem in specific terms. Citing her busy schedule, she declined a meeting.

Nor was there any appreciable movement on the question of our debts. Although the Russian participants at the White House meeting expressed their satisfaction with the position the Bush administration has taken, it is our biggest creditors Germany and Italy—and not the United States—that have the deciding say on this issue. Washington is attempting to put pressure on Bonn and Rome, despite the fact that according to some reports it will lose about $1 billion next year if Russia is allowed to reschedule its foreign debt.

There were, however, results in another department. Shokhin announced that we have finally managed to sort out the problem of the rehabilitation loan which the World Bank was prepared to grant us six weeks ago, but which we have still not taken up. An appropriate document will be signed in the near future.

Government To Halve Oil Exports to CIS Members

OW2909011692 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2054 GMT 28 Sep 92

["Cover Story" from 29 September "Business Report" feature—item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] In 1993 Russia is planning to almost halve oil exports to the former Soviet republics, bringing export levels down to 35-40 mn [million] tons. Russian Economics Minister Andrey Nechayev told this to Interfax. Exports to the republics in 1992 should total 97.3 mn tons according to plans developed at the beginning of the year by the Russian Ministry for Fuel and Energy.

The volume of Russian oil exports to Western countries in 1993 should be maintained at the 1992 level and total 45-50 mn tons. At the start of 1992 there were hopes that Russia would be able to export 59.31 mn tons of oil and gas condensate beyond the borders of the former Soviet Union. But recently experts from the Fuel and Energy Ministry have expressed concern that exports will barely reach 55 mn tons.

The decrease in exports is due to the continuing decrease in oil drilled in Russia. According to predictions from the Economics Ministry, the total amount of oil drilled in 1993 could only come to 340 mn tons as opposed to 397 mn tons for 1992. In the "worst case scenario," Nechayev said, oil drilling next year could drop to 310-320 mn tons.

The decrease in exports to the former Soviet republics is explained by the fact that accounts with those countries are done in a ruble equivalent, while exports to the West are done in hard currency sorely needed to purchase imports including imports of oil drilling equipment. In addition to this, until now accounts with the former Soviet republics have been kept at prices much lower than world prices, which the Russian government cannot possibly favor.

Next year Russia is planning to maintain the volume of internally refined oil at the 1992 level of 265-270 mn tons, which entirely covers the republic's internal demand for petroleum products. The government is not yet planning to consider lowering the export tariff on oil, which is presently 21 ECUs [European Currency Units] per ton.

Border Chief Says Tajiks Training in Afghanistan

OW2809174392 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1708 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The chief of staff of a Russian border guard task group in Tajikistan Colonel Valeriy Kochenov has said that attempts at crossing the border from Afghanistan have continued. The sections of the border in the Pyandzh and Kumsangir districts were the worst trouble spots. Several

days ago a border guard patrol came under fire from Afghanistan. Fortunately, there were no casualties.

In the Pyandzh district a group of intruders from Afghanistan were detained. Colonel Kochenov said all of them were Tajik citizens. Ammunition, grenades and two rifles were confiscated.

Colonel Kochenov has also said that according to his sources there are 200 to 250 Tajik citizens in Afghanistan at the moment. They undergo one or two month instruction at special camps in guerrilla warfare and acts of sabotage. He said that the camps were run by Golboddin Hekmatyar's Islamic Party of Afghanistan.

'Special Situation' in Relations With Estonia

OW2809165892 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1558 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Report by diplomatic correspondents A. Borodin, I. Porshnev and other; from "Diplomatic Panorama"—following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] According to the information available to DP [Diplomatic Panorama], the Russian leadership intends to take in the near future its decision concerning the character of relations between the Russian Federation and Estonia.

Recently relations with Estonia, as well as with Georgia, were reviewed by the collegium of Russia's government. According to participants in the session, the exclusion of Estonia's Russian- speakers, who make up almost 40% of the entire population, from elections displayed to the world community the policy pursued by the Estonian leaders in such a "naked and tough" form for the first time ever. In this connection, said the leader of the government's press center Gennadiy Shipitko, Moscow's attitude will be "unambiguous and tough enough".

In an interview with DP's correspondent a Russian diplomat monitoring relations with the Baltic countries said that the Russian government might have to resort to "measures of economic and political influence" toward Estonia. Such measures were mentioned in a resolution adopted by Russia's parliament on July 17 this year. In the resolution the government pledged to "work out for the parliament before September 20 a draft decree on suspending the intergovernmental agreement between Russia and Estonia".

It is believed that the decree has already been drafted, and a "political decision" alone is needed to implement the measures envisaged in it.

The Russian diplomat also pointed out that, despite Moscow's desire to build its relations with Estonia on the basis of equality and mutual respect, at present a "special situation" is in evidence. "Russia cannot be indifferent and refrain from reacting accordingly, when the rights of ethnic Russians are violated in Estonia."

Ministry Official Says Exit Visas To Be Abolished

LD2909000592 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0046 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Text] Moscow, 29 Sep (ITAR-TASS)— From January 1 1993, when the law on entry and exit comes into force, the section "exit until..." in passports for travel abroad will be removed, that is, the exit visa is in fact being abolished, NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA reports, quoting Vasiliy Vinogradov, head of the consular service of the Russia's Foreign Affairs Ministry. It will be sufficient for any citizen to apply to the consular service to obtain a passport once every five years.

Vinogradov reported that according to the data of the consular service, after the law on entry into and exit from Russia comes into force, which was already adopted by the parliament of the former USSR, the "clammering" line of those desiring to travel abroad will immediately reach 15-20 million people.

UK Trade Secretary on Visit, Economic Ties

MK2509150292 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 25 Sep 92 p 1

[Interview with British Trade and Industry Secretary Michael Heseltine by Sergey Babusenko under the "Contacts" rubric; place and date not given: "Michael Heseltine: 'We Are Prepared To Help'—Great Britain's Trade and Industry Secretary Arrives in Moscow 29 September"—first paragraph is introduction]

[Text] He will be accompanied by a group of prominent representatives of British business. The visit's program includes a meeting with those Russian leaders responsible for the development of the economy and trade, and the opening of a joint Russian-British Control Commission for Trade and Investment, the first session of which will be cochaired by Russian Deputy Prime Minister Aleksandr Shokhin and Michael Heseltine. The British minister will also take part in the opening of a new British-Russian business center.

[Babusenko] Mr. Heseltine, what are the working aims of the visit? Is it possible to view it as preparation for the summit meeting in London in November this year?

[Heseltine] I would not start linking our visit with the preparations for the meeting between Prime Minister John Major and President Boris Yeltsin. We are resolving specific tasks to activate trade and economic links. Russia needs goods, technology, and services, which British firms can and are prepared to supply. At the same time, you are experiencing a shortage of currency, but you have large reserves of minerals. Britain could help in their exploitation with the aim of using part of what is extracted as the basis for barter deals. We will study the possibility of investing capital in the Russian economy, and we will also specify which guarantees the Russian side is able to offer us. There is one more task—the broadening of links between sectors and enterprises. It will be interesting for us to learn the view of the Russian leadership and businessmen on this problem.

[Babusenko] Right now, aid to Russia is being implemented via two paths: through the channels of international financial organizations and through private capital. What is your opinion on this?

[Heseltine] I would not like to begin dividing these paths. In my view, they are closely interlinked. For instance, unless the IMF recommendations are carried out, it will be difficult for your country to create a climate of trust in which Western private capital would circulate on the Russian market without fear. The quicker the path of reforms is traveled, the sooner this climate will be created. We are receiving reassuring information from Moscow which inspires hope for the success of the economic reform in your country. We are prepared to help you in this.

Gaydar To Visit Caucasus, Ukraine, Poland

OW2909001292 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2109 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Russian Cabinet's press service has reported that the acting Prime Minister Yegor Gaydar will make two important visits this week. The first tour, Moscow-Yerevan-Baku-Moscow, is scheduled for September 30th.

The next day, October 1st, after taking part in a government meeting, the acting Premier will leave for Kiev to hold negotiations with Ukrainian leaders.

From Kiev Yegor Gaydar will go to Warsaw on October 2nd to discuss bilateral trade and financial obligations. He will return to Moscow on October 3rd.

LDP's Zhirinovskiy Meets With Le Pen in France

LD2909103492 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 2100 GMT 27 Sep 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The curious Vladimir Zhirinovskiy appears in the foreign news slot today. A pale shadow and semblance of a leader with numerous supporters—that is how the French, who have seen it all before, are describing the leader of the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP], who is now strolling the streets of Paris on a private visit (?to) our countrymen who left their country in the recent wave of commercial emigration.

[Correspondent Lukyanov] According to Zhirinovskiy, his aim, albeit a private one, is to establish contacts with France's right wing conservative parties. Although he did not manage to meet the leaders of the right wing parliamentary opposition party, he did have a warm meeting, as he put it, with Le Pen, leader of the extreme right wing National Front. Zhirinovskiy said the meeting confirmed that they have common ideologies and a unity of views. This enabled the visitors from Moscow to invite him to their conference and congress.

The LDP leader expounded in detail his blueprint for a single Russian state within the borders of the former USSR.

[Begin Zhirinovskiy recording] This will not only lead to the former republics peacefully running back to Moscow of their own accord, but to all of former Eastern Europe too—they will all come back under the aegis of Moscow. The Kurils will be Russian. The Baltic will be Russian. And we are prepared to get additional territories in some places. Ukraine will be the final stage, after we have sorted out our problems in Central Asia and Kazakhstan and dealt with Russia's borders, with the Baltic, Belarus, and the Caucasus. Ukraine will come last. [end recording]

[Lukyanov] The organizers said they hope to hold the next news conference in the Kremlin.

Political Issues

Yeltsin Chairs Talks on New Government Structure

LD2909134792 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1257 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Text] Moscow, 29 Sep (ITAR-TASS)—The issue of a new structure of the government of the Russian Federation was examined today at a sitting of its collegium, held in the Kremlin under the chairmanship of Boris Yeltsin. A report by Vyacheslav Kostikov, press secretary to the Russian president, notes that the proposed changes arise from the need to build a modern-day structure of central executive power that would reflect the new stage of radical economic reforms and the requirements of the rapid development of the Russian market.

In the president's view, the new outline corresponds to the market logic of economic decentralization while preserving the state's strong positions in those spheres of the economy that determine stability, national security, and social protection of the population.

The proposed outline considerably reduces the total number of the central executive power bodies—in total from 131 to 73. The number of ministries and state committees is cut down from 36 to 30. In particular, the Ministry of Industry is abolished. A state committee for industrial policy is set up instead of it.

The participants of the discussion believe that the new structure of the government makes it possible to implement the reform policy of the president and the government more decisively and dynamically. The task of the government and the new bodies being set up is not to command branches and enterprises, but to determine the economic policy and assist the development of market relations between free commodity producers.

Yegor Gaydar gave a report on the reform proposed by the government. A corresponding decree of the Russian President Boris Yeltsin has been prepared, and it will be published shortly.

Nechayev Previews Structural Policy Program

OW2809184492 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1803 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Report prepared by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin; edited by Boris Grishchenko; from "Presidential Bulletin"—folowing item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] At its October 1 session, the RF [Russian Federation] Government intends to consider the federal program of structural policy for 1993, said Russian Economic Minister Andrey Nechayev at a meeting with journalists.

The minister singled out three priority issues in this program: normalization of situation in the country's fuel complex, solution of food problem, and setting up of contemporary market infrastructure.

GOVERNMENT IS COUNTING ON INVESTMENTS BY COMMERCIAL STRUCTURES

Mr Nechayev expressed concern over shortage of investment resources. In his words, rigid financial policy ultimately precluded any investments at the expense of the state budget when the population has very limited assets and foreign investors "are not coming" to Russia.

In this situation, the minister said, the government is relying primarily on the capital assets of the Russian entrepreneur structures which amount to 1,500 billion rubles in current prices. The government also intends to propose to the Russian Central Bank that it permit to use a share of the reserve allocations of commercial banks (their current reserve rate amounting to 20%) as long-term credits for investment projects.

In addition, Mr Nechayev did not exclude a possibility that next year the enterprises' incomes allocated for investments will be exempt from taxation. He believes that this measure would restrain the export of the Russian capital abroad, its current volume there reaching $1 bn [billion] in some estimates.

The Russian economic minister also said that the government is going to reconsider some of its export tariffs, first of all, for the products of high processing grade in chemical industry.

INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR ENTERPRISE RESTRUCTURING

Mr Nechayev also said "a network of enterprise rationalization commissions will be set up in the nearest future" to handle such matters as reorganization of enterprises and banks, re-focusing of their production, and bankruptcy proceedings. He said the commissions will be manned by officials from the State Property Management Committee and the Finance Ministry. Is is also intended to set up a Central Enterprise Rationalization Commission using the facilities and staff of the Economics Ministry, which will be in charge of the largest industrial enterprises. It will likely be headed by First Vice Premier Aleksandr Shumeyko.

BUDGET DEFICIT COULD BE PREVENTED FROM EXCEEDING PLANNED LEVEL

The minister believes the government will be able to prevent budget deficit from rising above the level agreed with the IMF. He said, however, that this will to a large extent depend on "how effective will be the excise tax on oil" and what will be the amount of tax revenues (expected to reach almost Rb100bn this year), now that new oil prices have been introduced.

Mr Nechayev said that the problem of inter-enterprise arrears has almost been settled. The total sum of outstanding payments has fallen from Rb3.2 trillion in July to Rb0.6 trillion now, he said. However, an additional credit expansion of about Rb240bn will be required. On the other hand, the government intends to tighten its

monetary policy, because there are symptoms that yet another arrears crisis might be on the cards.

RUSSIA TO SWITCH TO FREE TRADE WITH REST OF COMMONWEALTH

Next year, Russia will adopt new principles in its trade and economic relations with other CIS countries. Mr Nechayev said agreements on free trade, which will accord the widest powers possible to individual enterprises, will be signed with all ex- Soviet republics. The government's role will be confined to permitting or banning goods from being taken out of Russia, he stressed. Alongside with this, the government will continue to conclude barter deals (when goods are exchanged on the basis of world market prices), as well as set quotas for strategic exports.

Although the Russian Government intends to retain next year the system of settlements with other CIS countries which was introduced on July 1 1992 and is based on correspondent accounts, it is not inconceivable that sub-accounts could be opened by commercial banks to ease payments, Mr Nechayev said.

The minister also declared that the government will be pressing for clear limits be set next year on how much other CIS countries may owe Russia. Should these ceilings be exceeded, Russia would then raise the question of assuming title to property in the countries which overstepped the limits. "All Commonwealth members concur in this", Mr Nechayev said.

DEFENCE OUTLAYS FOR 1993 LARGER THAN THIS YEAR, BUT MUCH SMALLER THAN WHAT THE MILITARY ASKED FOR

Mr Nechayev said that next year's defence expenses, including personnel expense and expenditures on building housing for servicemen, will total between Rb1.55 and Rb1.6 trillion in July 1992 prices. Although this is substantially larger than this year's defence bill (Rb632bn), it is almost one quarter less than what the defence industry asked for.

Appropriations for purchasing weapons and military materiel have been set at Rb170bn, instead of the Rb270bn on which Russia's Industry Ministry insisted. In physical terms, defence-related production will roughly remain at this year's levels.

Next year, Russia's receipts from weapons exports will amount to $3bn, including payments for weapons exported in 1992, Mr Nechayev said. INTERFAX estimates that this would be 15-20

more than this year.

Poltoranin: Information System Breaking Up

OW2809164892 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1519 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] "The single information system is breaking apart through the fault of the thoughtless policies pursued by the Ministry of Communication," said Russia's Vice-Premier Mikhail Poltoranin. On Monday [28 September] he took part in a conference chaired by first vice-chairman of the Russian parliament Sergey Filatov.

Representatives of the media, TV and radio companies and directors of publishing houses gathered for this meeting to discuss subscription to and retail sale of periodicals, and the transmission of radio signals.

Mikhail Poltoranin said that during the meeting proposals were made to set up an inter-branch commission, on the basis of the parliamentary committees, that will analyze the activity of the Ministry of Communication and recommend ways of improving it. These proposals are expected to be presented to the president, parliament and government. The question of preserving the single information system may be raised in the Russian parliament, said Mikhail Poltoranin. He also said that the commission's first proposals will be considered in two weeks at Sergey Filatov's office.

Some Former Autonomous Republics Back Parliament

LD2809130492 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1000 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Text] On 28 September the leaders of parliaments of former autonomous republics released a statement in support of the Russian Supreme Soviet. They defend it from attacks by the press and organs of executive power. The initiator of this statement was Murtazar Rakhimov, chairman of the Bashkortostan parliament. According to the NEGA agency, the statement's text has been signed by the leaders of all the former autonomous republics with the exception of Tatarstan, Komi, Mari El, Kabardino-Balkaria, and North Ossetia.

Yeltsin Congratulates Yakutsk on Anniversary

PM2809100992 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 24 Sep 92 First Edition p 1

["Greeting to Inhabitants of Yakutsk in Connection With City's 360th Anniversary" signed by Russian President B. Yeltsin]

[Text] I cordially congratulate the residents of Yakutsk on the city's 360th anniversary!

In this historically short period of time Yakutsk has been transformed from a small island on the banks of the Lena into a major administrative, industrial, and cultural center with a population of 250,000.

I remember very warmly my meetings with the residents of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia) capital during my visit to your city in December 1990.

I am sure that, working in harsh northern conditions, you are coping successfully with the tasks of implementing and deepening reform, the future of which is

now being decided at local level, in every city, in every labor collective. Your supreme responsibility, love of hard work, and talent are a pledge of that.

I wish all inhabitants of Yakutsk further successes, happiness, and prosperity.

[Signed] B. Yeltsin

Republican Party Urges Land Ownership Referendum

PM2509131992 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 22 Sep 92 First Edition p 2

[Irina Gulchenko report under the "Reform" rubric: "Will There Be a Referendum on the Private Ownership of Land?"]

[Text] The Krasnodar, St. Petersburg, and Rostov regional organizations of the Republican Party of the Russian Federation [RPRF] have put forward an initiative to collect signatures in favor of a referendum on the question of the private ownership of land. The party's policy council firmly supports this initiative, it was said at a news conference at the Gorbachev Foundation on 18 September.

The fundamental issue that has spurred the party into vigorous activity, according to Vyacheslav Shostakovskiy, chairman of the RPRF policy council, is the fact that the process of the radical reform of society is slowing down again: The indecision shown by the Russian leadership is jeopardizing the essence of the reforms, which still reflect the character of the people at the top alone. The involvement of people in privatization in a way which ensures the irreversibility of the changes in society can be accomplished today by the solution of the key question—the private ownership of land. The time for concrete actions has now come even though any referendum is a major political upheaval. Many political forces, such as Borovoy's party, the Russian Movement for Democratic Reforms, and structures of "Civic Union," support the right to the private ownership of land but their statements are at variance with their actual political steps.

According to Igor Yakovenko, cochairman of the RPRF, the political situation today is such that society is on the threshold of a new stage—a period of stagnation.

By means of the major political step of a referendum, the Republican Party hopes to pressure the government to reinforce the democratic character of the transformations. The final wording of the question to be put to the vote is as follows: "Do you agree that the Russian Federation's Constitution should enshrine the right to the private ownership of land, that is, the unconditional right of each citizen of the Russian Federation to own, use, and dispose of land?"

According to the results of studies done by the Russian sociological service "Monitoring," 82 percent of Russians favor that right with a figure of over 70 percent among people living in the countryside.

The first trial of strength will come on 15 November, when there will be a local referendum on this question in Krasnodar Kray.

Presidential Adviser Voices Support for Reform

MK2609091992 Moscow KURANTY in Russian 25 Sep 92 p 9

[Interview with Dmitriy Antonovich Volkogonov, presidential adviser on defense quesitions, by Lidiya Lukyanova; place and date not given: "Dmitriy Volkogonov's Forecasts"—first paragraph is introduction]

[Text] There is no need to introduce Dmitriy Antonovich Volkogonov, presidential adviser on defense questions, as a historian and philosopher, but few people know that at one time he was engaged in forecasting the development of social life, too. Our current existence asks more questions than it gives answers. And once again the most painful, Russian questions: What will become of us? Who is to blame? And what is to be done? Here are Dmitriy Volkogonov's forecasts.

[Lukyanova] Dmitriy Antonovich, I put this question to you as a historian and a philosopher: Does our life today have any kind of analogue in Russian or world history?

[Volkoganov] Analogy is quite a dangerous thing. But I would compare everything that is happening today in Russia with what happened in this country after February 1917. I wouldn't like events to develop in exactly the same way and for things to culminate in an "October 1992" with nothing gained and nothing lost. At that time there was a chance to lead events along an evolutionary and gradual path into a civilized and democratic harbor. But Lenin and the Bolsheviks wanted power. At any price. And they achieved it. The result of this is now clear to all. A major historical failure—the result of banking on revolution rather than evolution. Today, too, there are attempts and ambitions to resolve through revolution the problems that have accumulated over the decades. It goes without saying that the economic reforms are stuck in a rut. But to resort to revolutionary methodology once again would mean to deepen the crisis in the extreme. Adjustment [korrektsiya] is what is needed, both in the reforms and in the composition of the government, and the reforms need to be given a **HUMAN FACE** [in capitals]. But this needs to be done calmly, wisely, and in a considered fashion. In parliament and in our social accomplishments we would do well to place greater emphasis on centrist, moderate, professional forces. The extremes, both left and right, are destructive. When two extremes collide, all that remains are the ashes. Once again I will repeat: Salvation lies in moderation, in consolidation around the centrist forces. As a scientist I used to engage in forecasting the development of social life and events. A great deal could be predicted accurately. For example, at the last CPSU Congress I said in my speech that the party will die, as will other East European parties. I was not allowed to speak.... But the party did indeed crumble.

I anticipate that we will reach the low point of the crisis in the winter/spring of next year. But this does not mean that we will immediately start to pull out of it. You know, the transition from a totalitarian-bureaucratic system to a civilized democratic system is a road that could take 10 or 12 years to travel. This is little comfort, but it cannot be done any faster. There will be no quick economic miracle.

[Lukyanova] Dmitriy Antonovich, do you think that we will avoid bloodshed in Russia? Blood has already been spilled all along our borders.

[Volkogonov] Yes, blood has already flowed along Russia's perimeter. In the Transcaucasus, in Moldova, and in Armenia and Azerbaijan. And in Central Asia there is blood. I pray to God that this fate will bypass Russia. I believe there is every chance of avoiding the worst. The symptoms of emerging tensions are being most actively discussed in the Security Council. And this is work that is geared to the future, in order to anticipate events and prevent the outbreak of conflict. There must be no cataclysm—this people, out of impatience and, maybe, even legitimate indignation in respect of the reform tactics, pursues a destructive policy and exacerbates the situation.

[Lukyanova] Are you thinking of the political opposition?

[Volkoganov] Yes. I believe that it is the easiest thing in the world to shout "Down with...!" This is not constructive. Those people who today are again shouting "Down with Gaydar, down with the president and the entire government" are people who, involuntarily maybe or out of good intentions, could again drive us into a corner. And that is not where we want to go now.

If, suddenly, somebody started to listen to those who are crying "Down with...!" and tried to fulfill their slogans then society would inevitably return to a diktat economy, because they are simply following Bolshevik logic. I repeat, what we need are serious adjustments to the reform. It is wrong to regard it simply as a technical process. It is a process that is primarily social and human. This is the most important thing. No society should return to the past. I am convinced that through the good sense of parliament, the government, and the president, Russia will get by without bloodshed. And this is the most important guarantee that the reforms can be carried out less painfully. Even though the state in which we find ourselves is already very alarming.

[Lukyanova] And what alarms you as a forecaster?

[Volkogonov] The reform is stuck in a rut—that's the first thing. The second is that it is barely comprehensible to the population. Citizens do not understand what is going on. And the most depressing thing is that the entire society is in a state of some kind of permanent passive expectation.

[Lukyanova] For so many years now we have been living as if at a railroad station, waiting, waiting.... What lies in store for society? Will we wake up one morning and find that everything in our country is fine?

[Volkogonov] The success of the reform depends on how far society as a whole gets involved in it. It is not only the government, Gaydar, and the president who make the reform. The government's great weakness lies in the fact that it has not found a mechanism for the civilized involvement of all people in the reforms, and it has not found incentives for the people to support these reforms and to be interested in their success. The government indeed cannot find such a mechanism, but it needs not only criticism here but help, too. In the government's opinion, each one of us aspires to do our own thing [imet svoye delo]. Everyone? Unfortunately, this is not yet the case. And there is no solution to urgent questions. Therefore I would not like the next session of the Supreme Soviet to develop once again into a power struggle or rivalry between two authorities over which will come out on top. This kind of struggle will once again push the solution of urgent questions into the background. When the reforms are progressing with great difficulty and ineffectively, the most important thing is not to encourage the split of political forces into blocs. It is far more useful to place the emphasis on professional centrist moderate forces. As one of the cochairmen of the parliamentary group "Left Center" I very much hope that the leading role in the government will be played by people who adhere to centrist positions.

[Lukyanova] Are you talking about common sense?

[Volkogonov] Yes, common sense in the tactics of the reforms. In the government we must entrust more to people who, on the one hand, are totally committed to the reforms and are convinced of the need for them, and who, on the other hand, possess the greatest professional experience. They would conduct the reforms in a more considered fashion.

[Lukyanova] So it appears that we are going in the opposite direction from the set aim? There are more and more people who are disenchanted with the reform.

[Volkogonov] The reform essentially involves creating a completely new model of economic relations. But at the moment, I repeat, the reforms are very remote from people's needs. I wholeheartedly support the reform: We cannot return to the past, and we cannot return to the command economy, otherwise we would always be trailing behind world civilization. But we need better-conceived, more considered reforms, and, at this stage, the state should play a special role. Yes, the system was called an "administrative-edict" system. And it is true that we have thrown out the "edict" component. But it is too early to forget about the administrative part. The state should play a very big regulatory role during the transitional period to the market economy.

[Lukyanova] I am sorry to put it like this, but ordinary people don't give a damn about whether the reform is moving or not, because it has not improved their lives. How can interest in it be rewakened? The government is

not being supported by anyone except the thin stratum of the new entrepreneurs. If almost everyone is suffering as a result of the reform, who then will support it?

[Volkogonov] The whole point of market relations is that people should have something to gain from entering the market and the new economic relations. But now, you are right, all incentives for work have been lost. In the market, the better you work, the more you earn. But we do not have this yet. Our market is connected with brokerage and reselling rather than with production.

I do not envy the present government. But I would really like Gaydar to effect an economic miracle. Although the possibility of this happening in the near future is very illusory. Gaydar's course of resolute reforms is worthy of respect. But the greatest weakness of the reforms is the fact that they are ill-conceived from the social viewpoint. The reformers should first of all ask themselves the question: How will all this affect ordinary people's lives? When will life start improving? What must every individual do? And if the anwsers were forthcoming, then the aim of the set tasks would be clear to people. But at the moment it is not enough to say to an officer who does not have an apartment that we need a nondeficit budget and a convertible ruble. He has other problems. And how will resolving these aims affect a family with several children? Or a pensioner on a low income? All this should be explained to people. Then the government would have support. But they did not take this into account, and they just added up average statistics which said that things are not working out too badly; but when you look at what the reform is bringing to specific categories of people, it immediately loses its meaning for them. The government is introducing adjustments, but inflation is outstripping indexation....

[Lukyanova] Maybe you can understand, or even explain, why the government's style of leadership is that of trailing behind events?

[Volkogonov] I would not like our conversation to be reduced to criticism of the government. I believe that the government contains many capable people, although I, too, have criticized them frequently.

[Lukyanova] As a historian, do you know of any other state where the leadership is made up of scientists and theoreticians rather than practical people? Do our people know how to make two rubles out of one?

[Volkogonov] I see nothing wrong in the fact that intelligent scientists have become involved in running the state. But if they could add experience of running the economy, industry, and agriculture to their theoretical knowledge.... I have said this many times, and they have gotten very offended, but nevertheless I will say again that the reforms contain a great many theoretical calculations which are not sufficiently corroborated by practical experience. I would like there to be a symbiosis of scientists and major industrialists and agrarians in the government so that it would contain worldly- wise individuals who know that, without reforms, we are not going to get anywhere. But, unfortunately, the young ministers have little practical experience.

[Lukyanova] What can we do to survive? People are speaking increasingly frequently in favor of the unity of the republics. What is your view?

[Volkogonov] I took the disintegration of the Union badly, although I know that all empires, including the USSR, collapse eventually. This is inevitable; it is a historical fact. But I believe we had a chance of preserving in place of the Union a solid confederation of independent states with their presidents and governments, but on a strictly voluntary basis.

Such a confederation might be created in one or two generations' time. World trends are tending toward integration. We live on the same planet and we all have common interests. Two, three, or five republics could form the backbone of it. These ideas have not just come to me now. I have also expressed them at the congress of deputies. Although I do not have many supporters on this issue. It would be impossible to return to the former Union now; all we could have is a confederation which would have unified borders, an army, the ruble, and no customs posts—which is characteristic of a state formation. The peoples of the former USSR are bound by the fact that we have been in it together for too long. The breakup is extremely painful. Apart from the elderly and pensioners, it is the army that has found itself in the most difficult situation: There are 200,000 officers without apartments. Rigid schedules for the withdrawal of forces from the Baltic states, Georgia, Central Asia, Germany, and Cuba are being adopted. But after all this is very hard! Commands can be issued to officers and they can be moved several hundred kilometers in any direction for a month or even for years. But their families cannot be moved if they have nowhere to live. This is a very complex process. That is why I have proposed that, side by side with intensified construction of housing for them out of state funds, we should sell a specific quantity of weapons (we have a great many spare weapons) with a specific purpose: The money obtained should quite simply be handed out to officers for the construction and purchase of accommodations. Particularly to those who are transferring to the reserve. The army is the last remaining institution of a strong state and is still, to the credit of the officers, standing firmly on its own feet.

[Lukyanova] More and more we are hearing reproaches against Gorbachev and Yeltsin to the effect that Gorbachev initiated the collapse of the Union and Yeltsin finished the job off. Who is to blame? Is there a culprit?

[Volkogonov] Finished off the collapse—is that how you put it? I do not believe there is any reason to say that someone was responsible for the collapse of something. I am well aware that Boris Nikolayevich was in favor of signing the Union treaty right to the end. I was there when it was being discussed. It was the putschists who dealt the final blow to the treaty. Maybe that union would not have suited

everyone, maybe it would have been more like a confederation. Maybe not everyone would have signed it, but the republics only scattered after the putsch. Therefore I would not reduce the collapse of the Union to the personal doing of Gorbachev.

In historical terms his role in destroying the totalitarian system, the fact that he broke up the system, but that he did not hinder its self-disintegration.

As for Yeltsin, he did all he could to preserve the Union. He tried to preserve at least part of this unity. I believe that one day we will nevertheless be ready to understand the need for a confederation of at least some of the former republics, and, one day, a confederation will probably be formed. I do not know if I am right or wrong, but the hunch of an old pundit suggests that many people in various republics would like such a confederation. This kind of state community is extremely advantageous for the economy, too. And it would not infringe sovereignties.

[Lukyanova] Our "patriots" of all hues are also calling for a united Motherland, aren't they?

[Volkogonov] I will note that we are all patriots. There should not be any negative overtones in this sacred word. All the loftiest deeds of the Fatherland were always carried out by patriots. The opposition is trying to recreate the Union by force. And in this way it will discredit the idea of the confederation and any other unification, too. They intend to drive people into a union with a red banner. The train to such a union has departed and will never return. However painful that may be.

[Lukyanova] Is the opposition to Yeltsin strong?

[Volkogonov] It is fairly strong. But that is a normal, natural phenomenon. It would be nicer if the opposition, and indeed the authorities, proceeded in their mutual relations on the basis of civilized standards of democratic struggle.

[Lukyanova] Maybe the actual concept of patriotism in our country has been dishonored and discredited by the patriots themselves.

[Volkogonov] Why has patriotism suddenly become the prerogative of some individual group of people? Where else is such a thing possible? Why should democrats be less patriotic? Someone should answer this. Solzhenitsyn rightly said that unhappy are the state and the society where the word "patriot" and "democrat" are regarded as profanities.

[Lukyanova] You were one of the first people—and I witnessed this—who wanted to warn Boris Yeltsin against combining the two posts of president and head of government. Would you warn the president against this combination again, now that nearly a year has gone by?

[Volkogonov] Yes. I expressed my view in a note at the time. I asked Boris Nikolayevich to hold back, but it was already too late: He had already announced his decision at the congress. I am convinced that great reform requires sacrifices. And this also conforms to the rules of history. When a government has been appointed, and something is wrong, the president has the right to change one, then another, and even a third premier within a certain period of time. If this does not work, then there is another substitution. Maybe great reform requires several changes of cabinet. You see, a full-time premier is needed. Yeltsin has taken a colossal burden on his shoulders, but despite his gigantic capacity for work, it is still impossible for him to succeed. Although I respect Gaydar, I believe that there should be a full-time prime minister, and not an "acting" one. At that time I assessed Boris Nikolayevich's decision to combine the two posts as very courageous. But I believed then, and still do, that there should nevertheless be a full-time premier and not an acting premier. Maybe Gaydar himself should be appointed, but that is the business of the president and parliament.

I will say in conclusion that we have all entered the valley of trials and tribulations, otherwise known as the transitional period to a normal, civilized society. We must not lose our heads, become hysterical, or call for extreme measures. When you look at Russia's history you sometimes perceive that its destiny is to suffer and to hope. But we must also act.

Economic Issues

Economic Reorganization Program Resolution

PM2909102392 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 23 Sep 92 First Edition p 5

[Resolution No. 722 of the Russian Federation Government "On the Elaboration of a Federal Program for the Structural Reorganization of the Russian Economy," under the "Official Section" rubric, signed by Ye. Gaydar in Moscow on 16 September]

[Text] With the aim of ensuring the structural transformations in the economy necessary for the social reorientation of all the national economy's sectors and the creation of an efficient, competitive, high-technology, and mobile economy, the Russian Federation Government resolves that:

1. Russian Federation ministries and departments and organs of executive authority of republics which are part of the Russian Federation and of krays, oblasts, autonomous formations, and the cities of Moscow and St. Petersburg are to:

a) elaborate sector and regional programs for the economy's structural reorganization for the medium-term period (through 1995), determine the resources and their sources necessary for implementing these programs, including from the Russian Federation republic budget, regional budgets, and nonbudget sources, and produce proposals on measures concerning state influence on the process of structural reorganization. During elaboration of the structural reorganization programs, use is to be

made of the basic provisions of the Concept of Structural Policy for 1993 and the Medium Term approved by the Russian Federation Government, materials concerning the socioeconomic development forecast for 1993, and enterprises' and organizations' proposals and intentions concerning the development of their production.

b) identify the production units and enterprises whose output might not find a market because of its quality and cost and which for these and other reasons will face the threat of bankruptcy, and prepare proposals on their recovery, restructuring, or reorganization, bearing in mind that requests for state support of such production units and enterprises must be rigorously justified;

c) elaborate, if necessary, targeted comprehensive programs to solve problems and develop individual production units, sectors, and regions as integral parts of the overall federal program for the structural reorganization of the Russian economy;

d) include a list of investment projects in the sectorial and regional structural reorganization programs, indicating their sources of funding.

The said sectorial and regional structural reorganization programs are to be submitted to the Russian Federation Ministry of the Economy before 1 November 1992.

2. The Russian Federation Ministry of the Economy is to prepare the requirements for the elaboration of sectorial and regional programs for the structural reorganization of the Russian economy and the necessary methodological materials, and within two weeks report back to Russian Federation ministries and departments and organs of executive authority of republics which are part of the Russian Federation and of krays, oblasts, autonomous formations, and the cities of Moscow and St. Petersburg.

3. The Russian Federation Ministry of Science, Higher Education, and Technology Policy, in conjunction with the Russian Academy of Sciences and other interested organizations and within the framework of scientific research for 1992, is to elaborate draft programs ensuring the creation of a high-technology and efficient economy for the period through 1995 and submit them to the Russian Federation Ministry of the Economy before 1 November 1992.

4. The Russian Federation Ministry of the Economy is to elaborate, on the basis of the sectorial and regional programs prepared by Russian Federation ministries and departments and organs of executive authority of republics which are part of the Russian Federation and of krays, oblasts, autonomous formations, and the cities of Moscow and St. Petersburg, a draft federal program for the structural reorganization of the Russian economy for the period up to 1995 and submit it to the Russian Federation Government before 10 December 1992.

[Signed] Ye. Gaydar

[Dated] Moscow, 16 September 1992

Gaydar Criticism of Financial Policy Viewed

PM2809084592 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Sep 92 Morning Edition p 2

[Commentary by Mikhail Berger: "Yegor Gaydar Intends to Stop Deviations From Strict Financial Policy"]

[Text] In an interview with INTERFAX late last week Yegor Gaydar, acting head of the Russian Government, made a statement which could signify swift and serious changes to the government's financial policy and also changes in its relations with the Central Bank of Russia.

Speaking of the need to "consolidate once more our financial and monetary policy," Gaydar stressed that "further attempts at retreat will lead not to the revival of industrial production, but to the collapse of the financial and credit system and the collapse of the national currency."

Until very recently Gaydar refrained from any kind of direct criticism of the monetary policy or, to put it more simply, the actions of the Central Bank of Russia. People in the know say that even in unofficial conversations Gaydar reacted more than cautiously to the actions of the Central Bank's chief, Viktor Gerashchenko, which, in the opinion of many of Gaydar's team, destroyed what had been achieved at the cost of huge efforts and sacrifices.

Gaydar's criticism of the current financial and credit policy as a policy of retreat leading to the destruction of the national currency could (despite being couched in streamlined and diplomatic formulae) mean a change in his own stance toward the actions of the Central Bank of Russia.

The most probable grounds for Gaydar's current statement is the increasingly apparent prospect of a budget deficit of a size substantially in excess of the 5 percent of GNP agreed with the IMF. The Central Bank's active credit emission leaves still less chance of fulfilling commitments to keep inflation at a level of no more than 9 percent either.

It is difficult to judge whether Gerashchenko will manage, as he himself expects, to renegotiate with the IMF and soften the conditions for granting Russia financial aid. One can only recall that when Turkey found itself in a similar situation in the early eighties, the international financial organizations carried out stabilization in that country and a limit of 1.5 percent of GNP was set for the budget deficit. Moreover, these terms were considered extremely mild, and when Turkey's budget deficit reached 1.7 percent, a very tough reaction followed from the IMF.

But even if we disregard the problem of possible complications in relations with the IMF over the inordinate budget deficit, a continuing softening of monetary policy could lead to results directly opposite to what the head of the Central Bank and the industrial lobby expect. In the opinion of Andrey Illarionov, deputy leader of the Government Working Center of Economic Reforms, attempts to support production with the aid of credit expansion have not been successful. It is actually the last

two-and-a-half months, in which the Central Bank has been giving enterprises more and more money under the banner of saving production, that account for the sharpest fall in production.

What is strange is not the fact that Viktor Gerashchenko has not yet managed to maintain production with the aid of preferential credits or that the classic scheme of inflationary support for the economy is not working in our county. The strange thing is that the head of the Central Bank considers his first duty to be to support production, rather than the national currency—yet this is the principal task for any national bank. A Central Bank saving production at the expense of the stability of national currency is an even stranger phenomenon than a public prosecutor supporting the defense in court, or a trade union taking the side of the factory administration (something that is happening quite often in our country, incidentally).

It should also be remarked that Gaydar's statement also directly applies to the Ministry of Finance (it speaks not only of credit, but also of financial policy), which had a hand in the creation of the current budgetary problems. It cannot be ruled out that the dramatic development of events in the credit and financial fields are forcing Gaydar to review his attitude to specialists of the old apparatus of whose professionalism he has always had a high opinion and on whom he considered he could rely. (Vasiliy Barchuk, the present minister of finances, chief budgeteer in Pavlov's Ministry of Finance, was one of the first to be invited into the government by Gaydar). Some representatives of the Gaydar team consider his predilection for professionals of the old school a serious danger to reform. However, the criticism affecting (extremely mildly and indirectly at that) two "old specialists" by no means necessarily signifies a review of the overall position on this question.

Central Bank Official Views Bank's Achievements

LD2609105892 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1618 GMT 25 Sep 92

[BY ITAR-TASS correspondent Din Inamov]

[Text] Moscow September 25 TASS—"We consider the elimination of debt to the population to be our major achievement. We will prevent any debts of the kind in the future. As for the payment offset, a decision has been taken to hold an internal Russian and an inter-state offset of mutual demands," first deputy acting Russian Central Bank Chairman Arnold Voylukov told a news conference at the Russian Central Bank here today.

Touching on the organization of the Central Bank's work in the past two months, he said the bank acted within the framework of a tough monetary-credit policy of limitation of payment means, but, later, corrections appeared to be necessary as some previous calculations and forecasts were faulty.

"In particular, the estimation of excessive money was too high in the monetary-credit sphere," said the bank official. Voylukov described as ungrounded the opinion the bank leaders "have opened all locks" and are pumping excessive payment means into the country. He stressed the bank policy is coordinated with the Russian Government, and the illusion of rouble filling of the country has occurred due to the increasing credit injections that are a result of discussions and consultations with the government and the Supreme Soviet.

The Russian Central Bank does not dispose of credits on its own. Only 76 billion roubles out of the 1,400 billions worth of credit were granted by the Russian bank itself. All the rest was given on the agreement of the Supreme Soviet.

As for the rouble exchange rate, the initial media estimations of its recent drop to the gold have been non-objective. In Voylukov's words, the rouble exchange rate will not considerably change in the next few weeks.

Blames Ruble Drop on Energy Prices

OW2609014592 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1614 GMT 25 Sep 92

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Bank of Russia Deputy Chairman Arnold Voylukov blamed the ruble's sharp fall against the dollar on freed energy prices. He added at a press conference in Moscow Friday [25 September] that a more stable ruble can be expected.

Mr. Voylukov made assurances that "there is no basis for speaking of any conflict between the Russian Government and the Central Bank". He said that of 1.386 trillion credits issued since the beginning of the year, only 76 billion were given out by the Central Bank's initiative, only 6% of the total sum.

Moscow Interbank Currency Exchange President Aleksandr Zakharov, who was present at the conference, agreed with the Central Bank's prediction of the ruble's relatively quick stabilization. He also said was is "categorically against allegations that the dollar's climb was artificially created as a result of fictitious trading".

Central Bank To Purchase $200,000 for Ministry

OW2909010892 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1519 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] On September 20, Russia's Vice-Premier Aleksandr Shokhin instructed the Russian Finance Ministry to buy 200,000 dollars for the Ministry of Economics, through the Central Bank of Russia. This sum is to be deposited on a Vneshekonombank account.

This money has been allocated for completing the Ministry of Economics' talks with foreign countries on the utilization of loans extended to the Russian Federation and on the conclusion of inter-state agreements on trade

turnover and financial relations, and also for enabling the Ministry of Economics to fulfil the government's other instructions.

Shumeyko on Plan To Support Branches of Economy

LD2509235192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1256 GMT 25 Sep 92

[By BUSINESS TASS special correspondent Igor Ignatyev]

[Text] Washington September 25 TASS—The Russian Government needs to endorse a programme in support of vital branches of the economy, concentrating its attention on five to six main areas: food, fuel and energy, conversion of the defence industry to civilian production, giving more autonomy to regions, supporting fundamental science. This comment was made by first deputy chairman of the Russian Government Vladimir Shumeyko in an interview with the BUSINESS TASS correspondent.

Speaking about the economy and prospects for the socio-economic development of Russia, Shumeyko noted that state enterprises are being converted into joint-stock companies now. As of today only 805 or less than 3.5 per cent of 22,000 state-owned plants are in private hands. However they already account for 4.6 per cent of output. According to Shumeyko, changing forms of ownership will give impetus to economic development.

However, it is naive to believe that privatisation alone will lead to an increase in volumes of production. Non-privatised enterprises and even private plants continue to encounter old problems that lie behind a slump in production. The main obstacle is disintegration of economic links in the former Soviet Union. Statistics show that 800-900 enterprises stand idle every day due to shortages of components and raw materials. Financial problems also take their toll: instability, non-payment, rising prices, etc. In most cases, statistics show, manufacturers stop production because customers cannot pay high prices. Therefore a change in the form of ownership alone is unlikely to yield results and can even cause further drops in production, Shumeyko continued.

Chubays Comments on Privatization Matters

PM2909082592 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Sep 92 Morning Edition p 1

[Irina Demchenko report: "Government Extends Bounds of Privatization. Land for Vouchers! Opposition Is Opposed"]

[Text] In the very near future it is possible to expect a decision by the Russian president to extend the proportion of state property liable to be paid for with privatization checks, Anatoliy Chubays, chairman of the Goskomimushchestvo [State Committee for Management of State Property], declared 23 September. Proposals to include land and municipal property in the sales for checks and to extend the proportion of the means of production to be sold only for checks from 35 to 80 or even 90 percent are being examined.

A. Chubays declared definitely and unambiguously that the concerted speeches at the Supreme Soviet session by the leaders of the "Communists of Russia," "Homeland," and "Russian Unity" parliamentary factions against immediate privatization are of a property-ideological nature. "Communists and those backing them understand perfectly that the transfer of ownership to the people means the final demise of the command economy and of the political system based on total state ownership," Chubays said. He maintained that nothing can prevent the distribution of privatization checks, which will begin 1 October and will last three months.

The first 7 million checks have already been delivered to remote regions—to Kamchatka, Khabarovsk, Yakutsk, Magadan, the Jewish Autonomous Oblast, and a number of other parts of Siberia and the Far East. The checks will arrive in Moscow Saturday and in St. Petersburg Sunday. Some 35 million checks will have been printed by the end of September, a further 75 million in October, and the rest in December. The check starts to function only 1 December 1992.

A. Chubays once again urged people not to hurry either over obtaining checks or, still less, over selling them. According to his information, at the first option auction, when the right to receive a privatization check instead of its legitimate owner was being sold, the sellers were asking 4,000 rubles [R] per check, whereas at the last auction, held in Novosibirsk 22 September, the purchase price had risen to R10,500. The Goskomimushchestvo chairman declared his full support for the private investment funds being created for work with citizens' privatization checks, if these funds have been created in accordance with legislation and been officially registered.

Answering IZVESTIYA's question about how the revaluation of industrial fixed capital, which has begun on the orders of Ye. Gaydar, will affect the future incomes of shareholders, the Goskomimushchestvo chairman agreed: After revaluation the enterprises' profits will be reduced substantially in connection with the inevitable growth in depreciation allotments. The shareholders' expected dividends, calculated on the basis of present profits, will also diminish correspondingly. Most likely this will also affect the shares' market value. A. Chubays voiced the hope, however, that pressure from shareholders could force labor collectives to part with the huge stocks of equipment lying idle and make more efficient use of the equipment at work.

Privatization Yields R14.3 Billion So Far

PM2509145592 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 17 Sep 92 p 3

[Untitled report from INTERFAX, ITAR-TASS, RIA column under the general heading: "News"]

[Text] More than 16,000 out of 226,657 enterprises have been privatized in Russia. According to Russian State Committee for the Management of State Property figures, 60,085 labor collectives have applied to privatize their enterprises and 35,000 of these applications are being put into effect. The total value of the stock of the enterprises being privatized was 271 billion rubles [R] and the state budget has received R14.302 billion from privatization. In an interview with INTERFAX Oleg Kachanov, deputy chairman of the Russian State Committee for the Management of State Property, pointed out the drastic acceleration of privatization processes in Russia, which he associates with the organization of the privatization mechanism and labor collectives overcoming their mistrust of this process.

Businesses To Get Financial, Credit Support

LD2509135392 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1116 GMT 25 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Igor Gvritishvili]

[Text] Moscow September 25 TASS—Russian Deputy Prime Minister Valeriy Makharadze conferred today with heads of local administrations. They discussed financial and credit support for the development of small and medium business in regions with the participation of foreign investors.

According to Makharadze, in conditions of the economic crisis in Russia and the instability of the rouble Western businessmen are reluctant to invest money in ambitious projects worth billions of roubles. They find it more attractive to take part in the creation of small and medium enterprises on a regional level, which will be adjusted to local conditions and will start quickly the production of competitive goods. Makharadze stressed that Western banks are ready to finance the hard-currency part of such projects with the support of insurance companies after their proper examination. According to Makharadze, it is easier for such enterprises to receive credits in Russian banks.

Makharadze explained to the participants in the meeting a mechanism of the implementation of that programme and pointed out that recently it had won the approval of Western investors and major insurance companies.

20-Percent Drop in National Income Reported

LD2509211892 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1100 GMT 22 Sep 92

[Text] The national income produced in the Russian Federation between January and August was, according to preliminary estimates, 5 trillion rubles, a fall of 20 percent compared to last year. This has been reported by the RIKA news agency, citing a report presented today to parliament by the Russian State Statistics Committee. It notes that a drop of this size in the national income has also been reported in Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan. Between January and August, more than 10 million workers were let go from enterprises in Russia for various reasons. On 1 September, the employment services reported that there were more than 900,000 citizens seeking work.

Production Slump Continues in Second Half of '92

OW2809021592 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1645 GMT 27 Sep 92

[From the "Business Report" feature; following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The downward trend in production continued in the second half of 1992 in Russia. While production dropped an average 13-15% for the period January to June as compared with last year's indicators, July saw a faster 21.5% drop, and production fell 27.2% in August. The most significant drops were seen in the Kabardino-Balkarskaya and Severo-Ossetian republics, and the Kamchatskaya district.

FUEL AND ENERGY COMPLEX

The number of idle wells in the oil industry jumped from 1.7 thousand (9.5%) at the beginning of the year to 19 thousand (13%) at the end of the first half year. The increase was attributed to a drop in the production of oil industry equipment. From January to August the industry produced 264 mn [million] tons of oil, down 14% from last year. In the first eight months gasoline production was off 9%, diesel fuel down 8% and heating oil production dropped 6% from the same period in 1991.

During the period January to August this year 4% less coal was produced, while 4% more coking coal was produced than last year.

For the first eight months natural gas production was also down 0.5% from last year, and in August dropped 3% (1.4 bn cub [billion cubic] meters) below last August.

The period saw a 4% drop in the production of electric energy, with production at thermal electric stations, which supply ¾ of electric energy, down 7%.

METALLURGY AND MACHINE BUILDING

During the first 8 months ferrous metallurgy firms produced 6.2 mn tons (16%) less rolled stock, and 1.8 mn tons (25%) less steel pipe. The situation deteriorated in August; while the production of the main types of metallurgy product fell 21% in July, production of rolled stock dropped off 26%, and steel pipes 32% in August.

The manufacture of most machine building product was down 20-57% for the period January to August (metal cutting machine tools, forges, flax harvesters, tractor trailers). The production of alternating current electric engines, grain combines, tractors, excavators, and freight cars was off 26-33%. The drop in production was caused largely by interrupted shipments due to non- payments.

The production slump was also due to a drop in investment and a decrease in military production.

CHEMICAL INDUSTRY

The chemical industry produced 45 thousand tons (12%) less product in the first eight months of this year than last. Ten out of "Khimvolokno's" 15 firms failed to meet last year's production schedules. The production of chemical fibers and threads dropped the most, constituting 86% in August as compared with July.

A similar situation was seen in mineral fertilizer production. During the first eight months production was off 1.7 mn tons (17%), with nitrogen fertilizer down 485 thousand tons (11%), phosphate fertilizer down 990 thousand tons (33%), and potash fertilizer off 201 thousand tons (9%). The average daily production was off 2% in August from July production, and dipped nearly one third compared with last August.

FORESTRY INDUSTRY

The production of industrial wood dropped by 16.6 mn cubic meters (12%) in the first eight months of this year, with round timber production off 13 mn cubic meters (11%). The lumber industry is the primary offender destabilizing the industry.

Military & Defense Issues

Defense Ministry Discusses Winter Preparations

PM2509132192 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Sep 92 p 1

[Russian Federation Defense Ministry Press Service report: "Collegium Session"]

[Text] Questions connected with completing the preparation of troops and naval forces for winter were discussed 22 September in the collegium of the Russian Federation Defense Ministry.

It was pointed out in the collegium that, despite the great economic difficulties in the country and the complex situation with regard to funding and material and technical supplies, a considerable volume of work has been carried out. Special attention was paid to ensuring the vital activity of units stationed beyond the Arctic Circle, in the regions of the Extreme North, and in "hot spots," as well as those arriving at new stationing locations, and to resolving urgent tasks before the onset of cold weather.

Summing up the session, A. Kokoshin, Russian Federation first deputy defense minister, emphasized that it is always necessary to see the actual state of affairs behind the report figures and percentages and to take vigorous measures to improve them.

The collegium adopted a resolution on the question discussed.

Yeltsin Decree on Temporary Military Regulations

PM2509150592 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 Sep 92 p 1

[Decree of the Russian Federation president "On Approving the Temporary General Military Regulations of the Russian Federation Armed Forces," dated Moscow, the Kremlin, 16 September and signed by Russian Federation President B. Yeltsin]

[Text] For the purposes of ensuring proper conditions for the fulfillment of military service duties during the period of building the Russian Federation Armed Forces and until the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet adopts the permanent general military regulations of the Russian Federation Armed Forces, I resolve:

1. The Temporary Internal Service Regulations of the Russian Federation Armed Forces, the Temporary Disciplinary Regulations of the Russian Federation Armed Forces, and the Temporary Manual of Garrison and Guard Duties of the Russian Federation Armed Forces are to be approved and put into effect as of 1 January 1993.

2. The Russian Federation minister of defense is to be entrusted with approving and putting into effect the Temporary Drill Regulations of the Russian Federation Armed Forces.

3. The temporary general military regulations of the Russian Federation Armed Forces are to apply to:

the Russian Federation Border Troops, the Internal Troops of the Russian Federation Ministry of Internal Affairs [MVD], the Russian Federation Railroad Troops, and the Russian Federation Civil Defense Troops;

servicemen of the system of the Russian Federation Ministry of Security, the Russian Federation Main Protection Directorate, and the Federal Agency of Government Communications and Information under the Russian Federation president and servicemen of other Russian Federation ministries and departments;

servicemen of the Paramilitary Firefighting Service of the Russian Federation MVD;

military construction workers of military construction detachments (units) of the Russian Federation Defense Ministry and of other Russian Federation ministries and departments (apart from questions of organizing and carrying out guard duty). The Russian Federation Defense Ministry is to define the special features of organizing and carrying out garrison duty by military construction workers.

4. Following the adoption of the new Russian Federation Constitution and legislative acts on defense questions, the Russian Federation Defense Ministry is to draw up drafts of the permanent general military regulations of the Russian Federation Armed Forces and present them for submission to the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet.

[Signed] Russian Federation President B. Yeltsin

The Kremlin, Moscow, 16 September 1992

Decree Authorizes Commanders To Fire Personnel

PM2509085192 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 12 Sep 92 First Edition p 5

[Decree No. 1056 of the Russian president "On the Procedure for Dismissing Personnel During the Redeployment of Troop Units and Payment of Allowances and Compensation," signed by President B. Yeltsin in the Kremlin on 7 September]

[Text] With a view to stepping up social protection for the personnel of troop units, formations, associations, institutions, enterprises, organizations, and other organs of military management (hereafter called troop units) I resolve:

1. To give troop unit commanders the right during the withdrawal of these units from the territory of the former USSR union republics and other states back to Russian Federation territory and also during the redeployment of troop units on Russian Federation territory to another place to dismiss personnel (including pregnant women and women with children) in accordance with the procedure prescribed for personnel laid off when enterprises, institutions, and organizations are wound up.

Women discharged in connection with the withdrawal or redeployment of troop units who have the right to mandatory job placement under current legislation and who are resident on Russian Federation territory shall be found jobs at their place of residence by state employment service organs.

2. To pay the personnel mentioned in paragraph 1 of this decree for the second and third months of their job placement period the average wage for which current legislation makes provision in the case of discharge in connection with the winding up of an enterprise, institution, or organization as well as the payment of a leaving allowance on discharge.

The costs incurred in the payment of allowances and compensation are to be met from appropriations allocated to the Russian Defense Ministry, the Russian Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Russian Ministry of Security, the Russian president's Federal Government Communications and Information Agency, the Russian Foreign Intelligence Service, and the Main Directorate for the Protection of the Russian Federation to pay their personnel's wages.

3. Russian social security organs are to pay women with children discharged under paragraph 1 of this decree the same monthly childcare allowance as envisaged for working women until their child reaches the age of 18 months.

4. This decree enters into force as soon as it is signed.

[Signed] Russian President B. Yeltsin

[Issued in] The Kremlin, Moscow, 7 September 1992

Yeltsin Decree Outlines Conscription Terms

LD2809145292 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1100 GMT 28 Sep 92

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin today signed a decree on conscription to active military service and on the discharge of servicemen to the reserve. The decree sets new terms of conscription: two years for ratings and noncommissioned officers on vessels and in logistics units of the Navy and in seagoing units of the border troops; one year for naval ratings and Army privates and naval and Army noncommissioned officers with higher education; one year and six months for other privates, ratings, and noncommissioned officers.

Internal Troops Law Includes Yeltsin Objections

LD2509140292 Moscow Programma Radio Odin Network in Russian 1100 GMT 24 Sep 92

[Text] Today the Russian parliament adopted the law on internal troops of the Russian Federation's Ministry of Internal Affairs, taking the president's objections into account. In accordance with the amendments, it will not be the government's, but the president's prerogative to present to parliament proposals on numerical strength of internal troops. The president is to make decisions on using internal troops during a state of emergency. He is also to take measures to ensure legal and social protection for internal troops servicemen and their families.

New Ka-50 Helicopter Shown in Flight

PM2509095592 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1700 GMT 23 Sep 92

[Report by B. Baryshnikov and M. Fateyev; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] [Video shows announcer followed by shot of hovering helicopter] [Announcer] Some new equipment was demonstrated today at the Kamov helicopter complex flight-testing airfield.

[Baryshnikov] This is the first time that the Kamov design collective's new machine—the Ka-50—has been demonstrated in flight. People abroad consider this combat aircraft sensational. The Ka-50 can lay claim to the title of world's best helicopter in its class in terms of its main performance. It is currently being flown by Honored Test Pilot Georgiy Shishkin—the man who did the original flight testing [kotoryy dal etoy mashine putevku v nebo]. The Kamov complex has many outstanding developments to its credit. Incidentally, civil versions that are in great demand have also been developed here on the basis of combat helicopters. For instance, the helicopters you can see over the airfield now—the Ka-32 and Ka-126. The traditions laid down by Nikolay Ilich Kamov, the design bureau's first leader

and chief designer, who would have been 90 today, are being successfully developed by his successors.

[S. Mikheyev, general designer of the Kamov VNTK (expansion unknown)] The military side continues to be vigorously cut back. A very great deal now depends on our efforts to develop civil equipment, particularly helicopters. [Video shows helicopters in flight]

Supreme Soviet

Yeltsin To Speak 6 Oct; Gaydar on 7 Oct

LD2809162392 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1448 GMT 28 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS parliament correspondent Aleksey Tabachnikov]

[Text] Moscow September 28 TASS—Russian President Boris Yeltsin will address the Russian parliament on October 6, it was announced at a meeting of the Parliamentary Presidium on Monday [28 September].

Acting Prime Minister Yegor Gaydar will address parliament on October 7 with a report on boosting economic reforms in the country.

Also on October 7 the parliament plans to discuss the lawbill on the Russian Government.

7th Congress of Deputies Likely 15 Dec-12 Jan

LD2809165692 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1500 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Report by special correspondent Nikolay Artemyev from the Moscow White House]

[Text] The seventh Congress of People's Deputies of Russia may take place between 15 December and 12 January. This period has been designated for the congress by the Supreme Soviet Presidium, and although the final decision is still to be made by the Supreme Soviet, in all probability the congress is going to be held during that period.

Sergey Filatov, first deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet, who spoke on convening the congress, announced the proposed agenda. It includes the socio-economic situation and the progress of the economic reform in the Russian Federation, the draft constitution of Russia, rotation changes in the Supreme Soviet, and by-election to the Constitutional Court. All this makes it clear, even at this stage, that the congress is going to be rather difficult. One might hope, however, that a new constitution will be adopted which will modernize our legislative power system.

It was officially announced at the sitting of the Supreme Soviet Presidium that President Boris Yeltsin would speak at the plenary session of the Supreme Soviet on 6 October. On the same day, a report on the reform program will be made by Yegor Gaydar on behalf of the Government.

Filatov Interviewed on Parliament Proceedings

LD2809132592 Moscow Teleradiokomapaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1900 GMT 27 Sep 92

[Interview with Sergey Filatov, first deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet, by Sergey Dorenko; place and date not given; from the "Itogi" newscast]

[Text] [Dorenko] We have a chance to get first hand information. In the studio we have Sergey Filatov, first deputy chairman of the Russian Supreme Soviet. Sergey Aleksandrovich, when you watch how the session is progressing you get the impression that a majority of the deputies are criticizing the government. But when the question of a vote of no confidence in the government arises, only a minority is ready to vote for it. They criticize the government, but they spare it. Why? Does it have to do all the dirty work? Has the time not yet come to save the country, or is there simply nothing to replace it?

[Filatov] Well, you know, there are three points of view in parliament. These showed clearly at the beginning of the session, when we heard Gaydar and Chubays, that was, say, the first point of view, support for the reforms. The second point of view is total rejection—total, complete rejection, and the third point of view is an alternative, as it were, to what is happening. Of course, each group is presenting itself very vigorously, and as the second and third groups are putting an alternative against the program, of course, you get the feeling that the parliament is against the program, against the reforms. In actual fact, a crystalization is currently occurring, a polarization of views, which effectively define the different world views of the deputies, different approaches to these issues. I am always left with this one question—does parliament, or its majority, represent the balance of forces that exists in society? That is the main thing, in the final analysis, and I think that when we talk about the government, when we talk about these reforms, it is important to find the golden mean on which we have to agree, because if we fail to agree, then everything else occurs on the streets, and we have to avoid this, of course.

[Dorenko] Sergey Aleksandrovich, to what extent do you consider Gaydar and his ministers capable of modifying their views on reform in accordance with the deputies' demands? Someone wrote recently that an anti-Gaydar government might be headed by Gaydar himself, and that he will be confirmed at the session of the Supreme Soviet. What do you think? Will it prove possible to modify the reform without changing the cabinet?

[Filatov] You know, I do not think Gaydar will embark on concessions further than is determined by his position, and so I think, and very many people tell me when I meet them, that Gaydar has already made too many concessions, and precisely for this reason the inflationary process is not being halted, and by the way, it is proceeding very unevenly. Precisely at those times when he makes a concession, just afterwards another quite

serious spiral of inflation takes place. But that is my impression, and what I have heard from those I have met. And so, I think Gaydar will not be able to embark on such compromises under which the reform will be smoothed. If the question arises, and society is implacable about this reform, I think he will most likely resign, rather than agree to any compromises.

[Dorenko] And the center, the parliamentary center, the most powerful one at present, will it be capable of embarking on a compromise with the Gaydar government?

[Filatov] I think so. I think that the section of deputies that currently accepts the economic reforms, in precisely this spirit, precisely geared towards private property, precisely this section of deputies will be capable of finding a compromise together with Gaydar which will most likely be in terms of personnel.

[Dorenko] One question that is, perhaps, unpleasant. The press has been writing with some vigor that your relations with the chairman are strained. What is the current situation in the parliamentary leadership?

[Filatov] Well, you know, we have done everything so that parliament might begin work calmly and constructively, and we have transferred all these questions to a special session of the Supreme Soviet and the presidium of the Supreme Soviet. We have things to talk about.

[Dorenko] Will it be soon?

[Filatov] We had anticipated that it would be on 8 October, but because so much material has to be prepared for it, it is anticipated on 22 October, that is the preliminary plan. On 28 September we will fix the date precisely at the presidium.

[Dorenko] Thank you very much. I wish you success in your work. We are watching carefully how the session progresses. Thank you.

[Filatov] Thank you.

Supreme Soviet Decrees Nine Public Holidays

OW2909002092 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1709 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] According to a law adopted by the Russian Supreme Soviet on September 25th, Russia will have nine public holidays: January 1 and 2 (New Year's Day), 7 (Christmas), March 8 (Women's Day), May 1 and 2 (Spring and Labor Day), 9 (Victory Day), June 12 (State Sovereignty Day), and November 7 (Socialist Revolution Day).

The October 7 (1977 Constitution Day) has been excluded from the list and became a working day.

Regional Affairs

Caucasus Confederation Leader Escapes

PM2909102592 Moscow TRUD in Russian 29 Sep 92 p 1

[Aleksandr Isayev report: "Escaped and Gone into Hiding"]

[Text] Rostov-na-Donu—Yesterday evening, Rostov television carried the following announcement: Musa Shanibov, chairman of the Confederation of Mountain Peoples of the Caucasus, had been detained in Nalchik and was being transferred to Rostov-na-Donu. It had been intended to put him in a detention center at the Russian Security Ministry's Rostov headquarters. While talks were under way, Shanibov got out of a vehicle and escaped.

My attempts to find out the details of this incident came to nothing. Oblast Prosecutor A. Posidelov replied: The Russian Prosecutor's Office is dealing with this. Yu. Kuznetsov, head of a Russian Security Ministry directorate, told me: I cannot say more than was announced on television. The documents on Shanibov were not properly drawn up and he was not brought to us. I cannot tell you what happened next.

We would add that this happened on 26 September. So where is Shanibov?

'Calm' in Nalchik

LD2909133892 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 0900 GMT 29 Sep 92

[P. Guskov telephone report from Nalchik; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] After a large rally held yesterday afternoon and evening under the banner of the Confederation of Mountain Peoples on the central square in Nalchik, which was addressed by Musa Shanibov, president of the Congress of the Cherkess People, just arrived from Rostov-on-Don, and who called on the Russian authorities to demonstrate good sense in assessing the situation in the northern Caucasus, there has been comparative calm in the town.

Public transport is working and shops are open. Congress forces are in control of the airport. Barriers have been set up on the bridge over the river Shalushka on the way into Nalchik. The center of events today, as yesterday, is the center of Nalchik and the government building. An emergency session of the republic's Supreme Soviet began here at 1000. The situation in Karbarda is on the agenda. We will report the details later.

Nalchik Remains 'Tense'

LD2909142592 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0900 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Text] ITAR-TASS reports from the capital of Kabardino-Balkaria that the meeting under the flag of the Confederation of the Mountain People of the Caucasus continues today in Nalchik. In a suburb of Nalchik supporters of the Congress of the Kabardin people have blockaded the Rostov-Baku motorway. There were earlier reports that reinforcements of the interior troops of the Russian Ministry of Internal Affairs were being moved up to Nalchik from Pyatigorsk. Demonstrators are demanding the withdrawal of subunits of Russian interior troops stationed in Nalchik. Late on the evening of 28 September we learned that another demand by the demonstrators had been granted. Musa Shanibov, president of the Confederation of the Mountain People of the Caucasus, who had been detained earlier, was released. Late on Monday evening armed militants of radical nationalist organizations made several unsuccessful attempts to storm the building of the Kabardino-Balkaria Supreme Soviet. Trying to avoid bloodshed, the official authorities of the republic are conducting negotiations with the demonstrators. Meanwhile Nalchik remains tense. Store shelves are empty and there are problems with bread.

Chita Symposium Takes on Antigovernment 'Overtones'

OW2809165292 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1522 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A republican symposium entitled "The Rebirth of Russia—A Matter of Common Concern" held in Chita turned into a politicized meeting with obvious antigovernmental overtones, an INTERFAX correspondent has learned. Representatives from various parties and movements, scientists, and People's Deputies from Moscow and St. Petersburg, Nizhnii Novgorod, Yekaterinburg, Irkutsk, and other Russian cities participated in the meeting.

A. Akcyuchits, the leader of the Russian Christian-Democratic movement, appeared at the symposium and called the course of the president and the government "a betrayal of the state and national interests of Russia" and called for a struggle against the current leadership of the state. The majority of the participants in the symposium supported such an appraisal of the situation.

Gennadiy Pankratyev, the chief of the Zabaykal Cossack Force, announced from the rostrum that the current leadership of the country was "a hindrance to the rebirth of Russia," and that he and like-minded people were "ready to use terror and strikes on the Zabaykal railroad to overthrow the government."

Tuva's President on Local Issues, Russia Ties

MK2509151192 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 25 Sep 92 p 3

[Interview with Tuva President Sherig-ool Oorzhak by Vitaliy Portnikov under "Russian Federation" rubric; place and date not given: "'I Feel As Though I Am a Member of the Russian Government'—Tuva President Sherig-ool Oorzhak: 'Having Become President, I Moved to the Left'"]

[Text] [Portnikov] How do you see Tuva's future, and what is your attitude toward ideas on the possibility of its independent development outside the Russian Federation?

[Oorzhak] The answer to these questions needs to be approached dialectically, remembering Tuva's past. In 1911, the people of Tuva together with those of Mongolia expelled the Manchurian aggressors. And when it was a matter of the survival of Tuva's inhabitants, our forefathers turned to Russia. But the czar gave local rulers the opportunity to govern. In 1921, we became a sovereign state and entered the Union in 1944. With respect to 1944, we decided in the Supreme Soviet that if you judge according to today's canons then it is one question, and if you judge according to the norms of that period then it is another. History has its own laws. Our history after 1944 reflects, on the one hand, enormous progress and massive help, but, on the other, we all lived in a totalitarian society and the things which affected the Russian people affected the people of Tuva too. But today the picture is totally different, particularly after the signing of the Federation Treaty—nobody interferes in our affairs, we are developing, and aid is being offered. So why shouldn't we take our lead from this document and embark on the path of democracy, a strong integrated economy, and the guarantee of statehood and culture for all peoples living in the Russian Federation?

[Portnikov] You are talking about reforms, but in the Tuva leadership, in its parliament, there are still quite a lot of people who are living in the past....

[Oorzhak] I would agree and disagree. I would agree in respect of parliament, although a new leader has emerged—Supreme Soviet Chairman Kaadyr-ool Bicheldey. And there are thinking people in the Supreme Soviet, although they are not the majority. As for the actual government—well, before the presidential elections it was one government, and after the elections it became quite another. As for its intellectual potential and the participation in it of scientists and economists—we have never yet had such a government.

[Portnikov] Whom do you identify with in the political spectrum?

[Oorzhak] While working at the post of head of the government, I adhered to centrist views. Upon becoming president, I moved to the left a little. But I cannot allow myself to move too far to the left, considering the specifics of our republic.

[Portnikov] Do you feel that you are the head of a state, or the leader of an administration of one of the Russian Federation regions....

[Oorzhak] I feel that I am a member of the Russian Government. We interact very well.

[Portnikov] When talking about Tuva, many people frequently focus upon interethnic relations in your republic.

[Oorzhak] During the 1989-90 election campaigns many people sought to become deputies by exploiting the problems in interethnic relations. Well-publicized events took place in our republic. But the sources of them all lay in the structure of the republic's national economy, in the neglect of rural problems. We managed to stabilize the situation, and to slow down the exodus of the population from the republic. Last year the number of people who left Tuva corresponded to the number of people who came here.

Kamchatka Communist Party Holds Conference

OW2509011392 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 0450 GMT 16 Sep 92

[A. Arkhipov video report; from the "Dalniy Vostok" program presented by Vladimir Voropayev]

[Text] [Voropayev] A report that is a bit unusual by today's standards arrived here from Kamchatka, where our colleagues observed a meeting of the oblast's communists. As we can see, Lenin's ideas, while not winning, still live on.

[Arkhipov] The Communist Party, which managed to put together the greatest power in the world in record time and enjoyed unprecedented power, has lost its commanding position. Today, this underground party is no longer the vanguard of the working class, in the usual meaning of the word. It no longer controls domestic or foreign policy. However, the communists have no intention of giving up. Today, while the Russian constitutional court examines the CPSU case, the most consistent followers of Marxist and Leninist ideology are preparing for the next party forum— the 20th party conference, in which the country's communists are supposed to gather.

[Begin M. Mashkovtsev, delegate to the 20th party conference, recording] We expect to finally see real communists, not simply CPSU members, coming out of our oblast conference of communists. We will see how many of these we have in the oblast and discuss ways to go on living and working as communists. It is to be expected that we will cancel all decisions of the 28th [CPSU] Congress as contradicting communist teaching, reconstitute the party as one of the real forces opposed to the course of present government, and together with other opposition forces—in this case, I support the idea of a united opposition of the right and the left—struggle for resignation of the present antipeople government, and for the creation of a government that people can trust, on a coalition basis. [end recording]

[Arkhipov] So the communists are determined to rid the socialist fatherland of the provisional occupation government. This is the precise phrasing proclaimed at the meeting. Both the economic and the public and political situation on Kamchatka and in all of Russia were discussed. It was noted that the blame for disintegration of the Party as a unifying agent of the union and for the difficult economic situation falls on Mikhail Gorbachev and his coworkers and indirect followers, who act on orders of the International Monetary Fund and auction Russia off.

Among other tasks facing the communists, the pressing need to take control of the formidable weapon of strikes—which is one of the most fundamental methods of struggle for justice—was also mentioned. However, the discussion of such questions has become traditional at these meetings. Someone also invariably questions the presence of certain mass media representatives who actively disagree with the views of the gathering.

After heated debates on a broad range of questions, the meeting nominated two candidates for the country's communist forum: Mikhail Mashkovtsev and Nina Sovdyakova. A resolution was also adopted; one of its main points, apart from a call to revive the disintegrated party, is a recommendation for unification with all patriotic forces who are opposed to the government.

[Voropayev] It is unlikely that the communists will succeed in turning life backward; however, they might have enough strength left to drag the country into political squabbles and hamper the reforms, which are not proceeding too quickly in any case. Let us hope that we have enough common sense to prevent this from happening.

Tartu Heavy Bomber Command Moved To Novgorod

LD2709111392 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1900 GMT 25 Sep 92

[Report by N. Poboshchenko; from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Excerpt] The command of the Tartu heavy-bomber division, which not so long ago was headed by General Dudayev, has moved. Henceforth it will be located in the town of Soltsy, in the Novgorod area. This is part of the withdrawal of Russian armed forces from the Baltic countries. The regiment—which bears the Berlin Order of Kutuzov and Aleksandr Nevskiy—has been switched from Tartu to the Far East. However, only the regimental colors, stamp, and a few pilots have actually gone there. Most of the airmen have been posted to other units or have quit the army altogether. The already difficult living conditions in a Soviet garrison have got yet worse. There are 312 families of officers and NCOs without any housing at all. Supplies of fuel and spare parts for equipment have not just been cut back but often dry up. [passage omitted]

Official: Novosibirsk on 'Brink of Starvation'

OW2509143392 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1221 GMT 25 Sep 92

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Novosibirsk region may be on the brink of starvation in the forthcoming winter, the Chairman of the Regional Council Anatoliy Sychev declared at yesterday's session of the Novosibirsk City Council. 13 percent of cereals and 6 percent of potatoes were harvested in the region by September 24.

In Sychev's words, the government has refused to supply grain to the region. He did not rule out the possibility of shutting all enterprises in the city and sending all workers to harvest vegetables.

International Affairs

Turkmenistan Resuming Gas Deliveries

LD2809124692 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 2200 GMT 26 Sep 92

[Text] Deliveries of Turkmen gas to Ukraine are being resumed at a price of 3,000 rubles per 1,000 cubic meters without calculating the transport cost. This was announced to journalists by Kostyantyn Masyk, first vice-premier of the Government of Ukraine after the conclusion of his one-hour conversation with Sapamurad Niyazov, president of Turkmenistan. Kostyantyn Masyk noted that apart from resolving the question of the price, the sides agreed to create a most favorable regime for the development of multi-planned cooperation of the two states.

The first vice premier also reported that in the course of the conversation with Sapamurad Niyazov, fundamental clauses of the Turkmen-Ukrainian treaty of friendship and cooperation were discussed. It is expected that this document will be signed during the next visit to Turkmenistan by Leonid Kravchuk, president of Ukraine.

2 Chernobyl Reactor Blocks To Start Operating

AU2509181292 Mainz ZDF Television Network in German 1700 GMT 25 Sep 92

[Text] Two blocks of the Chernobyl reactor involved in the 1986 disaster are to start operating again next month. The Bonn Environment Ministry has learned of such plans by the Ukrainian Committee for Nuclear and Radiation Protection. Reactor blocks 1 and 3 are urgently needed to meet the demand for electricity this winter, Kiev officials stated. Block 4 caused the most serious accident ever in a nuclear power plant in 1986. The reactor type used in Chernobyl cannot be converted to meet Western safety requirements.

Negotiations Continue on Black Sea Fleet

LD2509134692 Kiev Ukrayinske Telebachennya Television Network in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 24 Sep 92

[Text] The Ukrainian Foreign Ministry press center reported that expert groups of the state delegations of Ukraine and the Russian Federation at the negotiations on the Black Sea Fleet continued their work on 23 September on the drafts of concrete agreements with regard to the implementation of the Yalta agreement. The experts examined and discussed the draft of agreements that regulate individual aspects of the functioning of the Black Sea Fleet in the transitional period and the principles and procedure for its manning, financing, etc. The state delegations should complete the elaboration of the drafts of these documents by 1 October this year.

Company Building Space Program With Russians

LD2509132292 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program Network in Ukrainian 1051 GMT 25 Sep 92

[Text] The Ukrainian-Russian Ariadne company, which includes specialists in the sphere of space rocket machinery from the two countries, is creating the first national space program of Ukraine. A low orbital system of communications satellites is being worked out. Up to now, powerful expensive rocket carriers have been used to provide such communications. Ariadne will not only simplify the whole system of organization and implementation of space communications, but will make it considerably cheaper. It will allow a more than 20-fold reduction of the distance to the orbit on which 25 flying pieces of communications apparatus, which are taken there by means of the Dnepropetrovsk Tsiklon rocket carriers, will be working simultaneously.

Iranian Mining Delegation Visiting for Talks

LD2709082692 Kiev Ukrayinske Telebechennya Television Network in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 26 Sep 92

[Summary] An Iranian delegation, headed by Batikhuri, Iran's mines and metallurgy deputy minister, is visiting Ukraine at the invitation of the State Committee for Geology. The delegation is now in Krivoy Rog. Iranian experts expressed desire to cooperate in this industry. The Iranians are interested in exchanging Iranian oil for iron ore, metal and mining equipment from Krivoy Rog. They also expressed interest in concluding an agreement with the Academy of Mining Sciences about training engineer cadres in Krivoy Rog Institute of Mining. Paragraphs on mutually-beneficial cooperation between the Mines and Metallurgy Ministry of Iran and the Ukrainian Academy of Mining Sciences have been entered into Ukrainian-Iranian memorandum which will be ratified on the interstate level.

National Affairs

Ministry Denies Changing Nuclear Policy

LD2809203192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1934 GMT 28 Sep 92

[By UKRINFORM-TASS correspondent Nikolay Zayka]

[Text] Kiev September 28 TASS—"The position of Ukraine regarding its aspiration to become a nuclear-free state remains unchangeable. The strategic nuclear weapons will be removed from the Ukrainian territory and destroyed within seven years, which fully corresponds to international agreements and Ukraine's commitments," according to a statement released here by the press service of the Ukrainian Defense Ministry.

Until the last rocket is destroyed, Ukraine, whose armed forces are not included in the composition of the Commonwealth Unified Armed Forces, will retain its membership in the Command of Commonwealth Strategic

Forces to which all strategic forces stationed on the Ukrainian territory are subordinated. The Ukrainian Defense Ministry exercises an administrative control over all strategic forces located on the Ukrainian territory, which is a reliable guarantee of their non-use.

This statement of the Ukrainian Defense Ministry denies reports that appeared in some news media saying Nursultan Nazarbayev, president of Kazakhstan, allegedly condemned "statements by Ukrainian leaders" on maintaining status of a nuclear power.

Rumors of Atomic Plant Accident Refuted

AU2909100092 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 19 Sep 92 p 4

[Article by correspondent Oleksandr Kryvoshey: "Everything Is Quiet at the Atomic Plant"]

[Text] Several alarmed HOLOS UKRAYINY readers telephoned the editorial board and asked: "Do you know what has happened at the Zaporizhzhya Atomic Electric Power Plant?"

As reported by our correspondent Oleksandr Kryvoshey, four units presently operate at the Zaporizhzhya Atomic Electric Power Plant: one, two, three, and five. Unit four has been halted for scheduled maintenance repairs. The third unit that was started up recently is being put at full capacity.

As Mykola Oberkovych, head of the Information Center of the Zaporizhzhya Atomic Electric Power Plant, explained, the radiation background is between 9 and 17 microroentgen per hour, which is within norm. In our correspondent's opinion, the rumors connected with the work of the Zaporizhzhya Atomic Electric Power Plant are due to the halting of energy unit four for maintenance repairs. As we were assured at the plant, so far, everything is alright.

Kravchuk Issues Edict on General Military Service

AU2909114692 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 23 Sep 92 p 2

["Ukrainian Presidential Edict on the Transfer of Servicemen to the Reserve and on the Scheduled Call-Up of Ukraine's Citizens to Fixed-Term Active Military Service" issued by Leonid Krachuk in Kiev on 18 September]

[Text] In accordance with Ukraine's Law "On General Military Duty and Military Service," I resolve as follows:

1. To transfer, in November and December 1992, those servicemen who have completed their fixed-term of active military service to the reserve from the ranks of Ukraine's Armed Forces, Ukraine's National Guard, Ukraine's Security Service, Ukraine's Border Troops, Troops of Internal and Escort Guard, and Civil Defense Troops of Ukraine.

2. To call up, in November and December 1992, for the fixed term of active military service in the ranks of Ukraine's Armed Forces, Ukraine's National Guard, Ukraine's Security Service, Ukraine's Border Troops, Troops of Internal and Escort Guard, and Civil Defense Troops of Ukraine those of Ukraine's citizens of male sex who have turned 18 by the time of dispatch to military units and who are not entitled to deferment from the call up for the fixed term of active military service, as well as those of Ukraine's citizens who have lost the right to a deferment from the call up.

[Signed] L. Kravchuk, president of Ukraine

[Issued in] Kiev, 18 September 1992

Edict Appoints New Military District Leader

AU2809121792 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1100 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Text] The Press Service of Ukraine's Defense Ministry has reported changes in personnel in the upper military sphere. President Leonid Kravchuk has issued an edict appointing Lieutenant General Vasyl Surkov as commander of the Ciscarpathian Military District. He was previously chief of the main staff of Ukraine's Armed Forces and, at the same time, first deputy minister of defense.

Directorate of Internal Security Established

LD2709144492 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 2200 GMT 26 Sep 92

[Text] A new sub-division, the Directorate of Internal Security, has been created within the structure of the Internal Affairs Ministry of Ukraine. In the words of Mykola Chervychnyy, chief of this service, its emergence has been provoked by the sharp increase in attempts on the part of criminal groupings to involve employees of the internal affairs bodies in illegal activity. The Directorate of Internal Security will also take part in preventing violations among the personnel and will defend the militia from penetration into their midst of criminal elements. Similar sections and groups will soon be formed in all oblast internal affairs directorates of Ukraine and in Kiev.

Security Council on Water, Medicine, Red Cross

LD2809112492 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 26 Sep 92

[Excerpts] The question of the critical situation with regard to the provision of immunological preparations was discussed on 25 September at a session of the National Security Council of Ukraine. [passage omitted]

A wide range of issues was discussed at the session, among them the necessity of resolving problems of drinking water. The necessity of producing medicines was defined as one of the priority areas for state activity, in addition to the resolution at an official level of the admission of Ukraine's National Red Cross Committee to the International Community. [passage omitted]

Discusses Threat of Infections

LD2609215892 Kiev Ukrayinske Telebachennya Television Network in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 25 Sep 92

[Text] The critical situation in regards to the provision of biological and immunization preparations and the threat of infectious diseases spreading in Ukraine was discussed today by the Ukrainian National Security Council. The epidemic situation which has taken shape was assessed and urgent measures for its stabilization and protection of the population from infectious diseases were discussed. Leaders of central bodies of state power, along with leading scientists and professionals, took part in the meeting which was chaired by Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk.

Crimean Deputies Adopt Constitutional Changes

LD2509213992 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1909 GMT 25 Sep 92

[By UKRINFORM correspondent Lev Ryabchikov]

[Text] Simferopol September 25 TASS—Crimean people's deputies today adopted changes and additions to the Republican Constitution.

The fundamental law now says the Republic of the Crimea is a law-governed, democratic and secular state within Ukraine and builds its relations with the latter on the basis of mutually coordinated legislative acts and agreements.

The republican competence is established by the Constitution and the Ukrainian law "on division of powers between the power bodies of Ukraine and the Republic of the Crimea".

The Constitution specifies powers of the republican supreme power bodies. The Crimean Government will have its permanent representation in Kiev.

It is stressed each citizen of the Republic of the Crimea is a Ukrainian citizen. A citizen preserves the right to dual citizenship. In this connection, the parliament has called on the presidents and the Supreme Soviets of Ukraine and Russia to speed up the preparation of a Russian-Ukrainian treaty on dual citizenship, which, the appeal says, corresponds to the wish of the majority of Crimea residents and will contribute to the lowering of tension on the peninsula.

The session adopted a social program to protect poor layers of the population in the second half of 1992. A draft program of state property privatization in the Crimea has been discussed as well. The deputies considered the draft insufficiently prepared and delayed the decision on the issue for a month.

The session completed its work.

Crimea Republican Movement to Disband

OW2809025492 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1700 GMT 27 Sep 92

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The press center of the Republican movement of Crimea (RMC) told "IF" [INTERFAX] that Sunday [27 September] the RMC coordinating council adopted a decision on self-liquidation due to changes and amendments introduced into the Constitution of Crimea and putting the RMC out of law. Simultaneously the coordinating council announced about creation of a "Russian-speaking movement of Crimea" as a society standing for security of rights of the Crimean people. The movement proclaimed that its aim is to receive citizenship of the Russian Federation for the residents of Crimea.

Democratic Forces Urged To Support Government

AU2809204492 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1300 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Text] The main task for Ukraine's national democratic forces lies in providing decisive support for the efforts of the republic's high-level leadership aimed at establishing the independence of the Ukrainian state. This thesis determines the main content of the resolution adopted on 27 September in Kiev by the Council of the Congress of Ukraine's National Democratic Forces. The members of this body believe that the intensification of the economic and social crisis in Ukraine is due to the [words indistinct] by the enemies of our statehood.

The congress condemns, as the resolution reads, the confrontation and destructive course pursued by those political forces that, under the cover of populist slogans, are trying to ruin our state. The council of the congress advocates the evolutionary development of our society and calls upon everybody to take part in constructive state-building activity.

It is obvious that the main controversial aspect of this document lies in the gap that exists between statements on the deep crisis in our society and the views of the parties—members of the congress—on the need to ensure rapid radical changes in the organization of the social mechanism. Now, it only remains for the leaders of the Congress of National Democratic Forces to do, perhaps, the most important thing: To convince the Ukrainian public opinion that their views are justified.

Belarus

Premier Dismisses, Cautions Economic Officials

OW2809182292 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1757 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Report prepared by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin; edited by Boris Grishchenko; from "Presidential Bulletin"—following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Prime Minister Vyacheslav Kebich has signed a government decree "on the serious shortcomings in the duties of state and economic bodies entrusted with the protection of the republic's economic interests". According to the document, the political future of the current Chairman of the State Committee for Oil, Vladimir Surmach, must now be reviewed, and the latter has been removed from his post. Also, Deputy Chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Ties Nikolay Makayed has also been relieved of his responsibilities due to various offences and abuse of his position, and the head of that department, Vladimir Radkievich has received a caution.

A caution has been received by Chairman of the State Customs Committee Gennadiy Shkurd. Agriculture and Food Minister Fedor Mirochitskiy has been reprimanded for his actions which have led to an increase in food prices in the republic. Finance Minister Stepan Yanchuk and several other high ranking politicians have been reprimanded for poor performance.

The prime minister considers the participation of managers from the state sector in entrepreneurial activity a matter of expediency, and has authorised a ten-day time limit for the preparation of appropriate draft legislation for debate at the next session of parliament.

Kebich To Visit Austria Without Foriegn Minister

OW2809182592 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1758 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Report prepared by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin; edited by Boris Grishchenko; from "Presidential Bulletin"—following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] An official visit by a governmental delegation headed by Prime Minister Vyacheslav Kebich to Austria will commence on September 30th. It is expected that credit, trade, industry, scientific collaboration, economic, transport, cultural and tourism agreements will be signed.

IF [INTERFAX] Note: According to information released by the Belarusian government, around 20 joint Belarusian and Austrian enterprises have been registered in the republic to date. Their authorised capital amounts to over 7 mn. [million] rubles. In the first half of 1992, the Austrian share in the overall Belarusian export and import turnover was 9.6% and 6.2% respectively.

An Interfax reporter has been informed by sources close to Prime Minister Kebich that Foreign Minister Petr Kravchenko has not been included in the governmental delegation. Local observers remarked that this was unprecedented: Kebich is a personal friend of the prime minister and has always accompanied Kebich whenever he travelled abroad. Experts tie in Kravchenko's omission from the Austrian delegation with the fact that, at a recent session of the Council of Ministers, Head of Parliament Stanislav Shushkevich subjected the Foreign Ministry to sharp criticism with which members of the cabinet did not agree (see "Presidential Bulletin" No.168 issued on September 25th).

Belarus Leads CIS in 'Brain Drain'

PM2509115592 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 22 Sep 92 First Edition p 7

[Unattributed report in News Agencies' Roundup under the general heading "Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow": "Brain Drain—the Malaise of the CIS"]

[Text] Belarusian scientists have taken a regrettable lead among their colleagues in the CIS.

The republic is the leader in the "brain drain" of people going abroad. Scientists are 10 times more inclined to emigrate than other sections of the population. According to data produced by the sociological service "Public Opinion," 22 percent of Belarus inhabitants want to leave the republic.

Consultative Council in Parliament Formed

OW2509155692 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1443 GMT 25 Sep 92

[Report prepared by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin, edited by Boris Grishchenko; from "Presidential Bulletin"—item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] At Stanislav Shushkevich's initiative the Presidium of Parliament passed a provision to create a Consultative Council in Parliament. The permanent council will discuss and prepare for hearings on various bills at parliamentary sessions.

Belarusian political leadership said that the council will help accelerate the process of preparing and passing laws in Parliament, and the legal quality of the documents will improve as well.

KGB Chairman on Lee Harvey Oswald

PM2909114992 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 24 Sep 92 p 4

[Article by correspondent Pavel Chernenko under the "Readers' Briefing" rubric: "Lee Harvey Oswald Was a Useless Shot"]

[Text] Everybody probably knows about Lee Harvey Oswald, the man who shot John F. Kennedy. However, only a few people know that he lived and worked for a while in Minsk. What have Belarusian KGB staffers got to say about this?

Captain N. Rogovich.

Our Minsk correspondent Pavel Chernenko:

"Foreign journalists' interest in the six-volume dossier kept in the Belarusian KGB archives on the perpetrator of the 'crime of the century' is certainly well-known. However, as the Belarusian Republic KGB Chairman Eduard Shirkovskiy has said, it will only be possible to get to know the case when the republic Supreme Soviet adopts a decision to declassify it.

"'It is nevertheless known that when Lee Harvey Oswald lived in Minsk, KGB staffers did have him under observation initially but having studied this person carefully came to the conclusion that he was not a CIA agent.

"'I personally have an interest in presenting this dossier to those American writers who have come to us with such a request,' the Belarusian KGB chairman said. 'On the basis of facts gathered at the time, it is possible to establish that the organs of the KGB were not involved in the tragic events of 30 years ago in Dallas. The state security service did not recruit Lee Harvey Oswald. With regard to the fact that Lee Harvey Oswald possessed a firearm in Minsk, it is true that it was issued to him as a member of a hunting club. However, as eyewitnesses testify, he was a useless shot, and it is hard to imagine that he could have killed the president.'"

Repair Plant To Scrap About 2,000 Old Tanks

OW2809125092 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1125 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The repair plant located in the Belarusian city of Borisov has begun reconstruction works with a view to scrapping military equipment subject to reduction.

As IF [INTERFAX]'s correspondent learned at the Defence Ministry in Minsk, about 2,000 tanks of old models plus more than 1,000 armoured vehicles and other military equipment are to be scrapped between next February and June of 1996.

Moldova

Latest Round of Russian-Moldovan Talks Ends

PM2509131192 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 22 Sep 92 First Edition p 7

[Correspondent Lyudmila Feliksova report under the "Talks" rubric: "Will the Scales Begin to Move Again?"]

[Text] The latest round of Russo-Moldovan talks on the fate of the 14th Army has ended. The talks were held behind closed doors so the details are not yet known and the date of the army's withdrawal has not been fixed. Even though an airborne regiment is already pulling out of Chisinau and a decision has been made on withdrawing the float bridge regiment from Bendery.

The sides sought mutual understanding. Once again criticisms were leveled at the Russians for the comments of 14th Army commander A. Lebed and there was even a statement from the Moldovan Foreign Ministry accusing the general of interfering in the republic's internal affairs.

However, it is still not clear what the status of the Dniester Region will be. Nor has the status of Bendery been defined: It has chosen to join the Dniester Republic, which has not been recognized. There is a diarchy in the city now: Two prosecutors, a court split into two sections, police and militia detachments combined into operational investigations groups, and the central command of the peace-making forces. This dual form of administration is perhaps suitable in the period of transition from war to peace but threatens new conflicts in normal life. The Dniester Region has announced the creation of its own army, customs service, and border detachments.

The scales, which seemed to have been brought into balance by the agreements between B. Yeltsin and M. Snegur, could begin to move again at any moment. There are enough people who want that to happen.

Defense Ministry Protests Lebed Statement

LD2609043992 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0900 GMT 22 Sep 92

[Text] The Moldovan Defense Ministry has lodged a protest against a statement by Lieutenant General Aleksandr Lebed, commander of the 14th Army of the Russian Federation, made in an interview with the Ostankino television company. The statement, published in the Chisinau press on 22 September, points out that Lebed is kindling military hysteria, creating the image of an enemy in the person of the Moldovan people and its armed forces, and putting the thought of a possible offensive against the Dniester region into the minds of impartial citizens. Those were quoted passages.

The Moldovan Defense Ministry also stated that the handover of some of equipment and weapons of the

Moldovan 300th Airborne Assault Regiment was being carried out in accordance with the agreement between the Republic and Russia.

Dniester Asks for Russian Help at Chisinau Talks

OW2509143692 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1220 GMT 25 Sep 92

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The leadership of the Transdniesterian Moldova Republic (TMR) has asked the RF [Russian Federation] Foreign Ministry to help invigorate the negotiations between TMR and Moldova on the definition of Transdniesteria's political status and send a group of its officials to the talks to act as mediators there.

A statement by the TMR leadership notes that Moldova has ignored the TMR government's proposals to this effect.

Tiraspol believes that Moldova's leadership is deliberately delaying the start of a political process to determine Transdniesteria's status and settle the conflict once and for all.

Defense Minister Creanga on Army Activity, Tasks

AU2509122792 Bucharest AZI in Romanian 23 Sep 92 pp 1,3

[Interview with Minister of National Defense Pavel Creanga by Trofin Stefan and Ion Ciornei; place, date not given: "I Think There Was No Other Solution"]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [AZI] The anti-Moldovan war provoked by the pro-separatist and pro-communist forces forced the leadership of the Republic of Moldova to also deploy the subunits of its national army. What role did the army play in solving the conflict and the war in general?

[Creanga] When the lives of our guards and policemen were in danger because of attacks carried out against them by well-trained troops, the subunits of our national army were brought into combat-readiness. The army succeeded in halting the separatists' aggressive actions. The reserves acted particularly well. These people learned new military specialties in a short time and under campaign circumstances. Artillery units fought particularly well.

[AZI] Let us recall the events that took place in Tighina between 19 and 22 June. How many people fell then? What made you abandon the city?

[Creanga] The situation in Tighina became acute on 19 June: The separatist guards attacked the police, and the army was not prepared for such an operation, because 40 percent of the reserves were given leave on the eve of this day. We only decided to send a battalion to Bender when we learned about the general mobilization in Tiraspol. This battalion had the task to occupy the bridge and halt the offensive of troops and technical supply toward Bender. As for our losses, we lost 22 men, including eight reservists. [passage omitted]

[AZI] It transpires from the declarations of many leaders of political organizations and of volunteers that our ideals regarding the integrity of Moldova were betrayed in connection with the return of the peace-keeping forces, and our leaders are responsible for the various victims. What is your opinion about this?

[Creanga] This is not true. Before signing the Convention, we were losing up to 15 men daily, and about 50-60 wounded. There was no sense whatsoever in continuing to fight, and we did not have the right, because we noticed an increase in the separatists' quantity of arms and military technology. The military actions turned into a positional combat. As is well known, after the events in Tighina, the front became twice as big.

[AZI] Why did the Russian troops come precisely as peacekeeping forces? Could you have asked others for military aid?

[Creanga] Neither Belarus nor Ukraine or Bulgaria approved to send troops here. Romania agreed to help only together with Ukraine and Belarus.

[AZI] Mr. Creanga! You visited Romania recently. What was the result of this visit?

[Creanga] I participated in the delegation led by Mr. Sangheli and I had the opportunity to meet with Mr. Spiroiu, the Romanian national defense minister, and his deputies. We discussed some issues of common interest. We made contacts that will enable us to solve the issues that interest us. [passage omitted]

[AZI] What are the prospects of developing relations between the two ministries?

[Creanga] Some 60 Moldovan students are currently studying in Romanian officer schools. In the future, a number of students of our military high school will conclude their studies in Romania.

[AZI] How does your ministry implement the law on the state language of the Republic of Moldova?

[Creanga] A Defense Ministry order obliges all the commanders of military units to start learning the Romanian language. I will personally participate in such lessons to perfect my knowledge because I actually stopped speaking Romanian for 37 years. [passage omitted]

Aftermath of Moldova Fighting Viewed

PM2809104392 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 24 Sep 92 pp 1-2

[A. Milkus report: "At Six O'Clock in the Evening After the War"]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] The bruises left on people's souls by the war are healing more slowly than the injuries and contusions on the body. On neighboring lathes in

one plant, a member of the Dniester Region home guard and a Moldovan volunteer are turning components. It is not difficult to guess what kind of looks they exchange. A single spark would suffice.... Just a chance remark....

Yes, the Moldovan and Dniester armed forces have been pulled back from their positions. Yes, the situation in the region is being monitored by the "blue helmets." However, peace talks between Chisinau and Tiraspol have not been started in earnest. For the time being, politicians on both sides of the Dniester are using the present lull to secure additional trump cards at the future talks.

It is no coincidence that M. Snegur has recently asked the UN several times to send a peacemaking force of this organization or its military observers to Moldova. The purpose is quite clear—to create conditions to oust the Russian troops from the zone of conflict. To this end Chisinau is actively pressuring the Russian military, seeking the 14th Army's urgent withdrawal. The first results are already in evidence—Moscow is withdrawing a paratroop regiment from Chisinau and a pontoon-bridge unit from Bendery.

There are, unfortunately, more than enough grounds for conclusions to the effect that an armed conflict could once again flare up in this region. Moldovan industry is still geared more to fulfilling military orders. In the armed forces there is a process of the accelerated formation of well-trained, combat-fit subunits.

On the other hand, the DMR [Dniester Moldovan Republic] is also continuing to build its own armed forces, which include the republican guard, Cossack formations, and territorial rescue detachments. Military uniform is being introduced for each of the units. It has set up its own defense ministry. DMR President I. Smirnov recently issued a decree on the formation of its own customs service and border units. They will be built on the basis of Cossacks and territorial rescue detachments. It was because of this decree that the meeting between M. Snegur and I. Smirnov planned for last week was canceled.

If you consider that the enemies are separated by the distance of a cannon shot and, in places, even a mortar shot, it would take just one sudden blow to draw military formations into new combat operations. The probability of this is very high—there are forces on both banks of the Dniester that are not interested in a peace settlement.

It is then that the weapons buried in plantations and concealed in plant warehouses will again come into play.

Every day that a political resolution of the bloody conflict is delayed could turn out to be the last day of peace.

"The most that Chisinau offers us is the status of an autonomous oblast. Today, after Bendery, we can no longer agree to these conditions," the Dniester Region leadership maintains. "We now believe that we must build our own independent republic, whose relations with Moldova will be only on the basis of treaties."

Meanwhile, the Romanian presidential election is to be held 27 September. It is perfectly possible that Chisinau is waiting for its result so as to correct its policy in conformity with the position of the new Romanian leader.

On the other hand, the positions of the present DMR leadership could be shaken in the very near future in the Dniester Region itself. Since the war, a hole consisting of several hundreds of millions [currency not specified] has been formed in the republic's previously deficit-free budget. They need to be spent on rebuilding Bendery. In addition, practically 70 percent of the harvest perished this summer. Even the wheat that came up and formed ears has remained unharvested in many fields because of mines. Food prices, previously some of the lowest in the CIS, now have to be increased. Primarily the prices of bread, milk, and meat. At the same time, many plants—particularly in Bendery—are unable to work at full strength. This means that there are no funds to increase wages. Hence, the possibility of a social explosion, which adds additional spice to the Dniester Region's already unstable cauldron. Who can take the place of the present leaders?

According to DMR Vice President A. Karaman, the situation now is more complex and less predictable even than it was during the days when war was being waged. I spoke with Aleksandr Akimovich about how to bring stable peace closer. The talks on the status of the Dniester Region could drag on for several months. Is it possible to take any steps at present which can at least postpone the possibility of a new armed conflict?

When the Issue Was Being Made Up

Contacting KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA's correspondent yesterday, Aleksandr Karaman made an official statement on behalf of the republic's top legislative and executive organs:

"Expressing the desire of the people of the DMR to live and develop under conditions of lasting peace and security, the DMR adopts a pledge never to be the first to use weapons against the Republic of Moldova under any circumstances. It is to be drawn up legally and passed to the leadership of Moldova in the very near future."

How will Chisinau respond?

Normalization Despite Continuing Casualties

LD2709084392 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian

[Report by correspondent S. Barabanov; from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] The agreement on a cease-fire in the Dniester region was signed two months ago. Tiraspol has published information on its losses in the war. A total of 685 people have been killed and 1,600 wounded since 1 March. Chisinau has provided no such information to

journalists. The number of casualties is on the increase due to the activities of the sappers. Three people were killed and four wounded during a mine-clearing operation [place, date unspecified]. Large quantities of weapons are in the hands of the Dniester region population. Still, life here is gradually normalizing. Plants are resuming work, and links between the Right and Left banks are being restored. The political future of the Dniester region remains vague, however. The local politicians agree that as a minimum, Chisinau is ready for a federation with the right to secede and as a maximum—for the setting up of an autonomous oblast. In any case, observers are unanimous in their belief that only Russian peace-making forces can guarantee peace here at present.

Snegur Says Only Cultural Autonomy for Gagauz

OW2509162792 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1447 GMT 25 Sep 92

[Report prepared by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin, edited by Boris Grishchenko; followoing item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Moldovan leadership is prepared to grant the Gagauzan people cultural autonomy and economic independence, but in no way will it be permitted to damage the confederate structure of our small state, as their leadership proposes". This statement was made on Friday [25 September] at a meeting between Moldovan President Mircea Snegur with a group of Turkish writers.

Snegur said that the next session of parliament would consider the document concerning the status of areas where small concentrations of Gagauzians live. The Head of State condemned the actions of certain Gagauzian leaders who are fighting for the formation of their own republic on Moldovan territory. Snegur stressed that the Moldovan leadership is concerned about the needs of its national minorities, including those of the 15 thousand-strong Gagauzian people.

The Turkish visitors stated that Turkey would "assist the Gagauzians only through official contact with the Moldovan government."

Christian Democratic Front Rally in Chisinau Noted

LD2709212292 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1720 GMT 27 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Demidetskiy]

[Text] Chisinau September 27 TASS—Only several hundred people showed up on Sunday [27 September] in a Chisinau Square for a rally of the Moldovan Popular Christian Democratic Front to support the candidature of the front's leader, former premier Mircha Druk, running for the presidential elections in Romania. Thousands have been gathering quite recentrly for such rallies of the front.

Speakers at a rally criticised the Moldovan leader and President Mircea Snegur, accusing him of "national betrayal" for signing the agreement with Russia on a peace settlement of the conflict in the Dniester.

Popular Front Petitions for Unity With Romania

OW2809125692 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1125 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Yuriy Roshka, a leading member of Moldova's Christian Democratic Popular Front, urged the Front's supporters to step up the endeavours to achieve unification with Romania, and start collecting signatures to the relevant petition. He made this call on Sunday [27 September] at a meeting in Chisinau timed with the presidential elections in Romania. Presidential candidates in Romania included Mircea Druk, chairman of the Front's council.

According to Y. Roshka, as a result of consultations in Bucharest a new concept of unification was worked out. Under it the people themselves, not the parliament, are to take the final decision concerning unification.

If more than 50% of Moldova's population sign the relevant petition, this will enable Romania to appeal to the world community to take into account the opinion of the majority of ethnic Romanians in Moldova, and raise the issue of unification on government level.

The meeting adopted a resolution in support of Mircea Druk as a candidate for presidential elections in Moldova, since he is "a symbol of unification of the two Romanian states". The meeting qualified the Moldovan President Mircea Snegur's policy toward Moldova's participation in the CIS as "betrayal of national interests".

The resolution also demands that the 14th Russian army be removed from Trans-Dniestria at once.

Kazakhstan

Nazarbayev on Nuclear Arms, CIS, Tajikistan

PM2909080092 Paris LE MONDE in French 27-28 Sep 92 pp 1,3

[Interview with President Nursultan Nazarbayev by Sylvie Kauffmann in France; date not given]

[Text] [Kauffmann] The postponement of the CIS summit scheduled to take place in Bishkek on 25 September highlighted the problems connected with the integration of the former republics of the USSR, especially because of the disagreements among the nuclear states on the status of strategic armaments. What do you intend to do with your nuclear weapons?

[Nazarbayev] This summit has been postponed until 9 October because the main proposals I had submitted—for a banking union and the creation of an economic coordination council—had not been given sufficient preparation. In regards to nuclear weapons, our position has not changed: We have created unified armed forces and Kazakhstan has placed its strategic arms under unified command (of the CIS—LE MONDE editor's note).

[Kauffmann] However, Ukraine, which is demanding the "administrative" control of nuclear weapons on its territory, has a different position?

[Nazarbayev] That is Ukraine's problem.

[Kauffmann] However, it is also the CIS' problem, and hence yours....

[Nazarbayev] Questions likely to change the content of the Alma-Ata agreement (which formed the CIS—LE MONDE editor's note) must be settled by all the signatories. Having said that, the problems worrying the international community do not come from Kazakhstan; Kazakhstan advocates arms reduction and has signed all the agreements aimed at that. Kazakhstan became a nuclear state against its will, nobody asked our view.... We now want to become a nuclear-free state. So, in a period of seven years, we will reduce strategic arms, in accordance with the START agreements. We have also signed a collective defense agreement with Russia, under the terms of which the parties themselves decide where they will deploy their arms and on what territory. Belarus has decided to transfer its nuclear forces to Russian jurisdiction, that is its right. If Ukraine—and I respect the processes which led it to that, it is not a simple matter—decides to take control of all the nuclear weapons on its territory, it must declare whether or not it is a nuclear power. As far as I know, Ukraine has signed the Washington agreement, it has signed the Lisbon agreement...which make provision for turning it into a nuclear-free country. Now, if the international community wishes to know Ukraine's intentions, it must ask Ukraine! Kazakhstan remains a member of the unified armed forces, it seems to me that that is clear.

[Kauffmann] How do you intend to settle the question of the division of the former USSR's debt?

[Nazarbayev] Quotas have been set within the CIS for each republic. Kazakhstan will pay its share of the debt in an independent way (Footnote) (Russia recently suggested taking over the whole former USSR's debt, in exchange for its assets in the West). All the CIS states are currently going through difficult times, but Russia is especially hard hit. The situation of all these states will depend largely on the way in which Russia succeeds in implementing economic reforms. The Western states must therefore urgently help Russia to reschedule its debt. If Russia cannot pay—and it cannot pay—it means bankruptcy for everybody, including the creditors.

[Kauffmann] Do you think that the CIS can survive? Is it not likely to be limited to Russia and the Central Asian Republics?

[Nazarbayev] I am convinced that all these peoples of the former USSR, who have affinities, will eventually form a normal community with normal political and economic relations. Personally, I do not want a division between Slav countries and Asian countries, and that is why I advocate the integration of all.

[Kauffmann] When will the Elf-Aquitaine company be able to start working in Kazakhstan?

[Nazarbayev] We have signed a contract with Elf relating to the prospecting of an extremely promising oil field and to oil production. We are currently drawing up the details of this agreement and Elf will start prospecting next year. This oil will be transported by traditional means, in other words by oil pipelines which pass through the former USSR, especially because currently, with oil production having fallen, the capacity for transport is greater. We are now constructing an oil pipeline which will end in Novorossiysk on the Black Sea: We will thus have two ways of transporting oil. The Sultanate of Oman is also interested in extending the pipeline toward the south to create an outlet on the Persian Gulf, but this question is still being examined.

[Kauffmann] The Russian community forms 40 percent of the population of Kazakhstan. Are you afraid of the repercussions of the ethnic conflicts which have broken out throughout the former USSR?

[Nazarbayev] We do not just have Russians, but Germans, Ukrainians, and so forth. That is why we are pursuing a policy of equal treatment for all, and that is what guarantees us political stability.

[Kauffmann] So yours is the only former Soviet republic spared by ethnic tensions?

[Nazarbayev] Yes, knock on wood!

[Kauffmann] Does the situation in Tajikistan worry you?

[Nazarbayev] It is an extremely serious problem. Tajikistan is a Central Asian country and hence close to us.

The position which the Islamic party occupies there is behind the disturbances, which have turned into a war among the provinces. The Islamic parties and other states have played a harmful role in Tajikistan. That could degenerate into a very great tragedy for the whole region. Russia, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and Kyrgyzstan have united their forces to close the border with Afghanistan across which arms are passing into Tajikistan; we have information that, under cover of humanitarian aid, weapons are being supplied to the warring sides by air. This arms supply route must be closed. Any other states which encouraged the supply of arms to the warring sides would generate miunderstanding and enmity from Kazakhstan and Central Asia. Kazakhstan and all the Central Asian republics must make every effort to stabilize the situation in that country.

Nazarbayev on French Visit, CIS Questions

PM2909083192 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Sep 92 Morning Edition p 5

[Report by Yuriy Kovalenko: "Nursultan Nazarbayev: Kazakhstan Counts on French Assistance"]

[Text] Paris—The first state visit to France in history by Kazakh President N. Nazarbayev began with his talks with President F. Mitterrand. These were followed by the signing of two documents—the Paris Charter for a New Europe and a bilateral treaty of friendship, cooperation, and mutual understanding.

The chief task facing my visit to France, N. Nazarbayev declared in reply to your correspondent's question at a news conference, is to open up a broad path for cooperation between enterprises and companies in our two countries with the help of the agreements which have been concluded. The pooling of Kazakhstan's tremendous natural wealth with French high technology will help to set up mutually advantageous collaboration.

A start has been made on it, the Kazakh president went on to point out: A major petroleum contract has already been concluded with the ELF-Aquitaine Company. Dozens of other French firms have begun work in light industry and processing industry sectors. Therefore it is now necessary to give a strong boost to attracting French capital.

Kazakhstan, N. Nazarbayev went on to tell IZVESTIYA's correspondent, is counting on French assistance in the reorganization of banking, in privatization, in military building, in the space sphere, and in ensuring safety at nuclear electric power stations. Therefore I would like during my first visit to remove the suspicion which the French still have toward us and to hold the maximum number of meetings with businessmen.

We have created our own army and are working out our own military doctrine, N. Nazarbayev continued his reply. We have treaties with the Russian General Staff and the Turkish military authorities, and we are counting on the assistance of France as well, particularly in officer training. Being an independent state, Kazakhstan is developing military relations in addition to political and economic relations. Finally, we must sell the weapons which are produced at several dozen enterprises in Kazakhstan.

N. Nazarbayev gave a very detailed reply to a question about his recent initiatives concerning the further development of the CIS. Now that Europe is moving toward integration, toward creating a common currency and lifting all barriers, he added, we are trying, according to an incomprehensible logic, to disintegrate still further what exists. Therefore it is time to determine who advocates the Commonwealth, who does not want to be in it, and who intends to have associate member status.

If my proposals are approved, N. Nazarbayev pointed out, this will reassure our peoples and help to resolve interstate, interethnic, and interterritorial problems. I do not raise the question either of restoring the Union or even of a confederation. I propose to act the way people act throughout the world. Integration is taking place in Europe, in America, in Asia.... What about us? Does it really hinder sovereignty? All have political independence, but in order to strengthen it we must put the economy on its feet.

Touching on relations with Russia, N. Nazarbayev emphasized that from the historical and geographical viewpoints, Kazakhstan has the same aims as the Russian people. Good relations with them are a priority for us and, I hope, for Russia too.

Nazarbayev's Paris, Bonn Trips Reviewed

OW2809184192 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1800 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Report prepared by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin; edited by Boris Grishchenko; from "Presidential Bulletin"—following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The agreements signed in Bonn and Paris have laid a foundation for further specific agreements with Germany and France, President Nazarbayev told journalists shortly after his return to Alma-Ata. He described the visit of Kazakhstan's governmental delegation as successful and praised German and French investors for their willingness to invest in Kazakhstan's economy despite the current problems. He explained the western partners' trust in Kazakhstan by political, economic and ethnic stability in it.

Nursultan Nazarbayev said that he instructed corresponding bodies to accelerate the drafting of the economic programme which will help implement the agreements concluded with the French and German leaders.

IF [INTERFAX] Note: According to IF sources, experts are drafting agreements which have to do, above all, with

ways of using foreign loans and technical aid for the development of the infrastructure and for training personnel.

The recent visits have convinced Nazarbayev that Europe should be properly informed about what Kazakhstan really is. He said in this connection that Kazakhstan has no press bureaus of its own in the European countries. The publication of an illustrated magazine, entitled Kazakhstan, will help promote the popularity of the republic, said Nursultan Nazarbayev.

Defense Minister Appeals to Servicemen in Russia

PM2909091592 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 24 Sep 92 p 2

[Report by Anatoliy Ladin: "Appeal by Kazakh Defense Minister"]

[Text] Colonel General Sagadat Nurmagambetov, defense minister of the Republic of Kazakhstan, has appealed to Kazakh servicemen who are serving on Russian territory.

The appeal says that friendship, military fraternity, and businesslike cooperation have linked the peoples of our states since long ago. This cooperation also continues today.

Proceeding from the agreement on the principles for staffing the CIS Joint Armed Forces and existing legislation in the Republic of Kazakhstan, the length of compulsory service for soldiers, sergeants, and ranking NCO's has been fixed for those conscripted before May 1992 as two years, and since May 1992 as one year and six months. For draftee servicemen who have higher education and have been conscripted before May 1992, it is one year and six months, and one year for those conscripted after May 1992.

Military service is hard everywhere, the appeal goes on to say, especially when you are far from your homeland, and your family circle. However, your fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, loved ones, and those who are close to you expect you to carry out your military duty with honor and for you to be loyal to the military oath, and they express the certainty that, while serving on Russian territory, you will not damage your own republic's prestige.

Kyrgyzstan

Kulov on Tajik Visit, Upcoming Roundtable Talks

OW2809183792 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1801 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Report prepared by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin; edited by Boris Grishchenko; from "Presidential Bulletin"—following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Kyrgyzstan's state experts are drafting recommendations on the organization and agenda of the All-Tajik Round Table conference. Such a conference is being organized on President Akayev's initiative and is expected to be held on October 9, simultaneously with the Bishkek summit.

Kyrgyzstan's Vice-President Feliks Kulov, who has recently visited Dushanbe, Kulyab and Khudzhand, said that Kyrgyzstan had a big stake in having the conflict in the neighboring republic settled because instability in Tajikistan may destabilize the situation in the whole of Central Asia.

"Sparkles of this fire will hardly miss our republic," he told IF [INTERFAX]. There are forces in Kyrgyzstan which will welcome such a turn, the more so since social tensions are growing in the republic. We are neither a prosperous nor a well-to-do republic," he said.

Feliks Kulov expressed hope that the meeting scheduled for October 9 will take place and will be a success. My optimism is based on my meetings with Acting President of Tajikistan Akbarsho Iskandarov, Prime Minister Abdumalik Abdullozhanov, leader of the Democratic Party Shodmon Yusupov, and the leaders of the Rastokhez movement and of the Islamic Revival Party. The leaders of the Kulyab parties and movements also showed great interest in the conference, all of which inspires a great deal of optimism.

When the future of a nation is to be decided, a meeting between all of its representatives should be held, disregarding the diplomatic etiquette, said Kulov. He said it was difficult for him to forecast the results of the Bishkek summit. He noted, however, that different political forces of Tajikistan view the problem of state unity from the same angle. "They are against splitting the country into several autonomous entities, because this will hurl it back into the past," he said.

Kulov described as ungrounded all the fears lest Rakhman Nabiyev, like Gamsakhurdia, might organize actions of protest against the new authorities. "In Khodzhand (Nabiyev's home town - PB [Presidential Bulletin]) I could feel that no such support will be given to the ex-president," said the vice-president of Kyrgyzstan.

Tajikistan

Ministry Seeks Urgent Russian Military Assistance

LD2909121192 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network in Tajik 1000 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Note sent by the Foreign Ministry to the Government of the Russian Federation, issued in Dushanbe on 27 September]

[Text] The Foreign Ministry of the Republic of Tajikistan conveys its respect to the Embassy of the Russian Federation in Dushanbe and has the honor to announce that the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan expresses its aspiration for the further development and strengthening of friendly relations between our peoples

and countries and appeals to the Government of the Russian Federation to provide assistance with the observance on the territory of the republic of the provisions of the Helsinki Final Act and also other norms and principles of international law, to give the appropriate instructions to troops of the Russian Federation deployed on the territory of sovereign Tajikistan, and to take all steps to prevent incidents involving the seizure of combat equipment by antigovernment groups. It also urges that the most severe measures provided for by law be applied to officers (?who leave their units) [words indistinct].

In view of the above, we request assistance in the form of the urgent provision of personnel to the 201st Motor Rifle Division so that its strength can be increased to ensure the security and protection of the lives of citizens of all nationalities living in the Republic of Tajikistan.

[Issued in] Dushanbe

[Dated] 27 September 1992

Russian Military Jets Land in Dushanbe

LD2909090992 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network in Tajik 0800 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Text] Last night seven military jets of the [word indistinct] forces of Russia landed at Dushanbe city airport.

Russian General on Reinforcements, Stolen Vehicles

OW2909122892 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1111 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The commander of the 201st Russian Division General Ashurov has informed IF [INTERFAX] that Russian reinforcements started arriving in Tajikistan late at night on Monday [28 September]. Now the division will have a full staff for peaceful times and will be capable of guaranteeing the security of the garrison, weapons and hardware.

General Ashurov gave the details of the seizure of three tanks and armored vehicles on Sunday. They were stolen by Tajik and Uzbek officers who deserted from the Russian regiment in South Tajikistan. The five officers who were staying in the vehicles were taken hostage and released only on Tuesday.

A group of seven tanks, eight armored personnel carriers and one armored combat vehicle was formed on Sunday to protect the remaining equipment. It headed for the garrison but came under fire from the stolen vehicles. The shooting was conducted despite the fact that a column of refugees from Kurgan-Tyube was moving nearby. The general stressed that Russian troops did not open fire till the last refugee left the zone.

General Ashurov said he gave orders to destroy all the armored vehicles if they are not returned to the garrison. He said by Tuesday morning two of the stolen tanks were destroyed. In the operation one Russian tank and one armored vehicle were damaged, a company commander was seriously wounded and a deputy commander of the division was shell-shocked.

In the interview the general stressed that he will carry orders only from the Russian command with which the Tajik leadership should coordinate the use of military hardware.

The general felt that the war in Tajikistan can be stopped only with the help of a peace-keeping force of the CIS or the UN. He stressed that under no circumstances should the personnel of the Russian division be used as a separating force in settling the conflict.

Nabiyev in Hospital With Injuries After Beating

LD2809051692 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0400 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Text] According to a report from the NEGA agency, Rakhman Nabiyev, ex-president of Tajikistan, and Safarali Kendzhayev, ex-speaker of the republican parliament, made an attempt to fly from Leninabad airport to the town of Kulyab. Both former leaders of the republic, however, were detained and beaten up by a group of unidentified individuals.

According to the agency's information, the ex-speaker managed to get away quickly, leaving the former president to be torn to pieces by the crowd. As a result, Rakhman Nabiyev has been hospitalized with serious injuries.

Committee To Investigate Russian Military Thefts

OW2809234392 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2106 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Tajikistan's Parliamentary Presidium has passed a resolution to establish a state commission for investigating the theft of military equipment from Russian military units stationed in the republic. The commission will include representatives from the Interior Ministry, the Committee of National Security, the Office of the General Prosecutor and Russian military personnel. The commission will be charged primarily with the thorough investigation of cases of stolen armored vehicles and all necessary measures for strictly holding the perpetrators responsible for their actions.

Fierce Fighting Continues in Kulyab-Tyube Oblast

LD2909122592 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 0900 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Text] Kyrgyzstan is ready to mediate in settling the armed conflict in Tajikistan and intends to provide assistance in organizing talks between the different sides involved in the confrontation. Meanwhile, this is what we have received from our correspondent in Dushanbe:

[M. Nikulin] As before, the situation in the republic's Kurgan-Tyube Oblast remains difficult. Armed clashes have been continuing unabated for three days and nights now between the opposing groupings. According to reports received, the administrative center of Kurgan-Tyube Oblast is, as before, half controlled by irregulars from Kulyab. The buildings of the oblast and town internal affairs departments and the oblast executive committee have been destroyed, as well as a communications building, resulting in a loss of telephone and telegraph communications with the capital. The building of the Committee for National Security has been seized.

Normal life in the town has been suspended. According to figures of the Department for Enforced Refugees, recently established in Dushanbe, over 3,000 residents of Kurgan-Tyube and rayons of the oblast have already arrived in the capital. Steps are being taken in Dushanbe to provide them with temporary accommodation and employment. The refugees are being given a cash allowance, miserly but at least something.

The situation has stabilized on the Shar-Shar and Chormagzak passes, where there have been armed clashes lasting several days. The Nurek hydropower electric station, the road linking Dushanbe with Kulyab Oblast, and other vital republican facilities in the area are being guarded against armed terrorists by the forces of the law-enforcement bodies and subunits of a CIS motorized rifle division with the assistance of members of the Salvation of the Fatherland [Spaseniye Otechestva] headquarters.

Over 800 servicemen arrived in Tajikistan today to reinforce subunits of the 21st CIS Motorized Rifle Division. This is because of the increasing seizures of military hardware and weapons and because of the threat to the personal safety of officers and men. People in the republic's capital Dushanbe, though affected by their concerns, are carrying on with their normal working lives. According to information of the Internal Ministry of Tajikistan, no particularly grave crimes were registered last night; virtually all the 24 incidents involved theft of personal belongings and cars.

'Enemies' Seize Kurgan-Tyube Security Center

LD2909085192 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network in Tajik 0800 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Text] Dear esteemed listeners! The situation in Kurgan-Tyube oblast has been very tense lately. The enemies and the traitors of the nation are instigating trouble. They are burning houses and killing people. According to the latest news from a reliable source, the building where the [Kurgan-Tyube] Oblast's Committee for National Security is headquarters has also been taken. All but three [word indistinct] committee workers have been taken by the insurgents to an unknown destination. Because communications have been severed we have been unable to contact Kurgan-Tyube and obtain a detailed report.

Kurgan-Tyube Chairman Holds News Conference

LD2809225192 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network in Tajik 1300 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Excerpts] We reported earlier that a news conference had been held and we promised that at this time we would provide you with a detailed report on this conference. I must initially say that Nurali Kurbonov, chairman of the Kurgan-Tyube Oblast Executive Committee; Khaji Akhmad, Mukhamad Solikhev, and Abdusatorov Mirzoyev, heads of department of the oblast Executive Committee; [name indistinct] Shodi Kabirov and representative of the oblast office of the Democratic Party of Tajikistan were present at the news conference. They were among the witnesses of the bloody events which had taken place in Kurgan-Tyube city. Nurali Kurbonov started speaking in detail about the situation in this way:

[Begin Kurbonov recording] The fighting situation: All the measures taken over the past three months to find a solution yielded no result and the war in which brothers are killing brothers has been going on over this period—since May—on the territory of Kurgan-Tyube oblast. It is surprising that this is the fourth time that the 27th of the month has seen days of bloodshed in the oblast: there was a day of bloodshed on 27 June, a day of bloodshed on 27 July, a day of bloodshed on 27 August, and yesterday, 27 September, the people of Kurgan-Tyube oblast experienced the most horrific day of bloodshed .

Although it would take too long to explain the facts and the reason for this, we can clearly say that so far, no government body has been able to guarantee the security of the people of Tajikistan. If there were a government body in the territory of Tajikistan, the security of people would have been fully guaranteed. What do I mean? First of all, the people's security depends on the way in which we can secure the people's protection. So far we have come to the conclusion that in order to protect the people there must be a force which can defend them.

(?This holds good everywhere), but in Tajikistan, the Russian forces, both inside and around Tajikistan, are protecting the borders of Tajikistan. Yesterday substantial interference by them made the aggravated situation of today even more dramatic. Yesterday at 1600 three tanks and an armored personnel carrier were taken from (?a unit) on the territory of Kurgan-Tyube. There is one thing I did not understand. During the whole period of bloodshed and fighting, we have made efforts to see that not a single hand should harm (?the work) of Russian forces on the territory of Kurgan-Tyube and that there should not be any interference, because this would aggravate international relations.

However, yesterday we learned that this theft had taken place and I cannot believe that responsible people did not have a hand in this. Three tanks and an armored personnel carrier cannot just come out of the unit because there is a 24-hour guard maintained there, and I cannot understand how they could come out from there,

and the commander of the unit said: I was told that there was a theft. What does that mean? Was it theft and no one could stop it? No one found the armored personnel carrier and they have been shedding people's blood until now, and yesterday tanks were stolen. As you know, these were heavy tanks and their sudden attack yesterday put the people of Kurgan-Tyube in a situation which cannot be explained. Children and women as well as old people and other people were unable to escape. This was a sudden action.

At 1700, I mean 1730, when I reached some people on the phone, they informed me and demanded that immediate measures be taken. However, positive measures could not be taken in one day. Whatever the Government of Tajikistan did, it did not have a useful result. There are Russian forces inside our republic and they do not obey us. They do not obey us. As a result of demands they withdrew (?a little). I believe that in the future all forces which are inside our republic, those which are on the territory of Kurgan-Tyube and those which are on the territory of Kulyab, must be made to leave these oblasts. It is urgent that they should leave within the next few days.

Weapons were given or sold anyway. However, they have managed to obtain the largest equipment and this led to a disaster for the people of the oblast. About 80 ethnic groups are living on the territory of Kurgan-Tyube. We do not want to blame the people of Kulyab. The population of Kulyab, at large, are for peace and want peace. However, those groups who are well known to all of us, their leaders being Sangak Safarov, Langari Languriyev, and others including Rustam Abdurakhimov, were all involved in the bloodshed. The like of all this bloodshed and cruelty which people suffered from them has not been seen in history.

We obeyed every action of the government. However, during the four-day period which was set as a deadline we were hopeful, and four days before this deadline we were together with a group of people from the Liberation headquarters and we wished to have a meeting with representatives of the Kulyab oblast. We were supposed to have a meeting in Dushanbe. This did not take place. Another one was supposed to take place in Tursunzade. This did not take place. One was supposed to take place in Pendzh but it did not take place either. Then Leninabad was mentioned and we agreed to go to Leninabad. We would sign this to achieve peace. However, the leaders of the people from Kulyab did not want this. This bloodshed and misery which people suffered was the result.

All day long we tried to achieve peace and have a good day, but it did not happen. This is a (?result) of the interference of the Russian Army in [the affairs] of the people of Tajikistan and the people of Kurgan-Tyube and Kulyab. [end recording]

[Announcer] After Kurbanov's speech, a question and answer session began. Our colleagues the correspondents of the republic's newspapers and of the foreign mass media asked questions about the tragedy of Kurgan-Tyube. Naturally, their attention was focused on the position of the Russian Army in this tragedy. Therefore, most of the questions were on this. Representatives of the oblast's leaders who attended this conference answered the journalists' questions like this:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified speaker] The technology and equipment which was used the other day.... [changes thought] I do not know their names but the crew and their leaders were serving the Russian Army on our territory. What you are saying is correct, because I did not give you their names, but they went with the same equipment and same people.

[Second unidentified speaker] Pardon me, but I was indirectly involved with the Russian forces in Kurgan-Tyube and I say that the leader in charge of all this cruelty is [name indistinct] Mirkulov, the commander of the regiment of Kurgan-Tyube oblast. From beginning to end he supplied them with guns, bullets, and grenades and all sorts of weapons. [Word indistinct] is this Mirkulov who has close relations with those people. He is a despicable person who takes bribes from the same people, enjoys their services. For this purpose—for money and good living—he has committed this cruelty. The first time when they took away his personnel carrier he said: I was unable to do anything. They stole it and took it away.

What kind of a commander is he? What kind of person in charge of that section is he? They steal the equipment and take it away. How can this happen if he himself does not agree? Another three tanks and one personnel carrier were stolen. He came to see me and swore that he would guarantee that nobody could take away any equipment. He used to say this until recently. However, because of the betrayal of the same Mirkulov, and with the betrayal of Ashurov, the commander the division, these things are happening.

The people responsible for the cruelties are General Ashurov and Mirkulov because without permission and instruction of these people, nobody can take away military equipment. [words indistinct] [end recording]

[Announcer] Actions are taking place to kill brothers in Kulyab and to exterminate the people of Tajikistan in which experts of the republic as well as the CIS and people who are protecting the borders are participating.

Dear listeners, technically it was not possible for us to record all the questions. In this conference, questions were asked about who were mainly responsible for this bloodshed, and how did the government help you, and what was the position of the KGB and the Internal Ministry? Was there an oblast administrative body or not, and other similar questions. Leaders of the oblast gave clear answers. Now listen to the following answers:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified speaker] Ashurov is 100 percent guilty of this because of the five officers who

were taken hostage. Ashurov himself was given the ultimatum that if you shoot anyone who has come to steal the tanks, we will kill the five CIS officers. For five officers they killed 200-300 people.

Dodkhudoyev, deputy head of the Police Department, who is one of the bravest officials of the department, was killed with a bullet in the mouth, and of the 70 officials of the department, apart from about 15-20 officials, all were hurt. Nobody knows at the moment where Comrade Ahmadov, head of the Police Department, is.

Despite all of this, I support Comrade Kurbonov and Abdusattar Mirzoyev and I demand that the army of Tajikistan definitely [word indistinct] and be controlled by the leadership of the republic. I demand that a decision must be made immediately in the republic [words indistinct] people of Tajikistan protect themselves both on the border and inside the republic. [passage omitted]

[Announcer] At the news conference for foreign and domestic journalists an IZVESTIYA correspondent asked Nurali Kurbonov: How do you react to the actions of Russian servicemen? Please listen to the answer from Kurbonov.

[Begin Kurbonov recording in Russian] I think that it was a crime, in short. It was a crime and cannot be described as anything else. How did it happen? About 20 to 25 days ago they lost several armored personnel carriers and nothing was said about it. No steps were taken to get them back. This prompted them later to steal heavy tanks, heavy tanks [word indistinct], the (?latest tanks available). How could this be? It was a crime that they committed against our people. [end recording]

[Announcer] Similarly the leaders of the oblast answered a few more questions and clarified the issues which the journalists wanted clarified.

[Begin unidentified speaker recording] If today our brothers from Kulyab come to the defense of their fellow Kulyab brothers, if the Russian people come to help and say that they have come to defend the Russian people living in Kurgan-Tyube oblast, and if Uzbek-speaking people come to the defense of their Uzbek-speaking brothers in Kurgan-Tyube oblast, I regret that this will turn into a field of blood on an unprecedented scale. We are saying, however, that in Kurgan-Tyube oblast there was no bad treatment of any people or nationality by others. I don't know why they have started this war and made the political demands which they have made of the republic. These demands are of no interest to the people of Kurgan-Tyube oblast. To this day I cannot understand these demands from Kurgan-Tyube oblast. I would like to say that the Islamic Revival Party, those who are involved in [word indistinct] the people to religion and Islam, have never made any moves toward establishing an Islamic regime on the territory of Kurgan-Tyube oblast. The people living in Kurgan-Tyube oblast do not have these demands. We want one thing. The people who were brought on us [as heard] should be made aware that no action will be taken in relation to Kulyab oblast. Our people have never wanted this. Our only demand is—and I have repeated this on many occasions—that this be tackled by goodwill and peaceful means. They did not respond and to this day are continuing their actions. [end recording]

Democratic Forces Protest Russian Interference

LD2909090692 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network in Tajik 0700 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Text] A meeting was held yesterday outside the republican Supreme Soviet building in Dushanbe by the democratic forces of Tajikistan. The participants demanded that the leadership of the republic take specific measures to end the armed conflicts in Kurgan-Tyube oblast and to disarm the armed formations in Kulyab oblast. The participants demanded that the Russian [word indistinct] be removed from Kurgan-Tyube oblast. Sayfuddin Turayev, acting deputy chairman of the republican Supreme Soviet said at the meeting that the leadership of the republic has protested to Russia against the interference by Russian servicemen in the internal affairs of Tajikistan, and leaders of the UN have been informed about this. The republican government is currently taking specific measures to find a way to end this situation. Sayfuddin Turayev invited the participants of the meeting not to surrender the national unity of the Tajiks and [words indistinct] under such abnormal conditions. The meeting then ended.

Kurgan-Tyube City Executive Chairman Killed

LD2809150692 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network in Tajik 1400 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Text] A news conference was held today at the Cabinet of Ministers building with the participation of Nurali Kurbonov, chairman of the Soviet of Peoples Deputies and chairman of the Executive Committee of Kurgan-Tyube Oblast, and other officials of the Executive Committee. The leader of Kurgan-Tyube Oblast spoke on the significant deterioration in the situation over the past two days. Shooting is continuing and there are many dead among the population.

As reported at the news conference, the chairman of the Soviet of Peoples Deputies and Executive Committee of the city of Kurgan-Tyube was killed by an unknown armed group.

Leader Replaced

LD2909135892 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network in Russian 1000 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Text] An emergency session of the Oblast Soviet of People's Deputies has been held in Kulyab. The session examined an organizational matter.

Kurbonali Mirzoaliyev has been released from his post as chairman of Kulyab oblast Executive Committee at his own request. Deputies unanimously elected [word

indistinct] (Zhankul Rizoyev) to replace him. He was previously chief of the sixth department of the oblast directorate of internal affairs at Kulyab Oblast Executive Committee.

Guards Report Border Violations From Afghanistan

LD2909155492 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1410 GMT 29 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Znamenskiy]

[Text] Moscow September 29 TASS—An attempt of frontier violators to cross the River Pyandzh from Afghanistan to Tajikistan on a raft has been frustrated on Monday [28 September] by guards of one of the frontier posts of the Khorog frontier guards district. An armed group of ten people on the Afghan bank provided the cover for the crossing. Fire from automatic guns was opened on Russian frontier guards. One guard was wounded. The bandits have been unable to make the crossing. ITAR-TASS learned this from the press service of the Russian frontier troops on Tuesday.

Turkmenistan

Niyazov Announces Free Energy Consumption Program

LD2709100292 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0840 GMT 27 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Ashgabat September 27 TASS—From next year onwards, the population of Turkmenistan will use electricity, gas and water free of charge, President Saparmurad Niyazov said in an interview with the SVOBODNAYA MYSL (FREE THOUGHT) magazine, of which the Gorbachev Foundation is one of co-founders.

The republic will manage to neutralise negative and painful aspects of the transition to market-determined relations at the expense of proceeds from the sale of oil, gas, cotton and products of their processing, the president of Turkmenistan said.

"Simultaneously we shall also take other measures to promote transition to a market economy but we shall not resort to a shock therapy under any circumstances," Niyazov emphasised.

Niyazov on Socioeconomic Development Plans

LD2709130692 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1000 GMT 27 Sep 92

[Text] Turkmenistan is aiming at building democratic and secular state with diverse forms of ownership and the consolidation of society inside the country. This was stated by Saparmurad Niyazov, the republic's president, in an interview to the Moscow magazine SVOBODNAYA MYSL. He says that it will be possible to neutralize painful instances which occur in Turkmenistan during the transition to market relations because of payments received from the sale of oil, gas, cotton and related processed products.

Niyazov, Ukraine's Kravchuk Discuss Economic Ties

LD2409204692 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1500 GMT 24 Sep 92

[Text] A telephone conversation took place today between Saparmurad Niyazov and Leonid Kravchuk, presidents of Turkmenistan and Ukraine, respectively. They reached agreement on establishing bilateral mutually beneficial economic relations.

Permanent Mission in Russia Becomes Embassy

PM2809120592 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Sep 92 Morning Edition p 2

[Vladimir Kovalevskiy report: "Permanent Mission Becomes Embassy"]

[Text] Niyazklych Nurklychev has become the first Turkmen ambassador to Russia, having presented his credentials in the Kremlin to Vice President Aleksandr Rutskoy.

Thus the former union republic's permanent mission becomes an embassy, and the 45-year-old permanent representative acquires the status of ambassador plenipotentiary and extraordinary.

Security Committee Deputy Chairman Appointed

LD2709142892 Ashgabat Radio Ashgabat Network in Russian 0200 GMT 26 Sep 92

[Text] Zaryp Hojamgulyyevich Atamyradov has been appointed first deputy chairman of the Turkmenistan National Security Committee .

Deputy Commander of Border Troops Appointed

LD2709134892 Ashgabat Radio Ashgabat Network in Russian 0200 GMT 26 Sep 92

[Text] Major General Vladislav Aleksandrovich Shunyevich has been appointed first deputy commander and chief of staff of the Turkmen border troops.

Uzbekistan

Prime Minister Favors Gradual Privatization

OW2909012692 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1807 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Report prepared by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin; edited by Boris Grishchenko; from "Presidential Bulletin"—following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] In an exclusive interview with Interfax, Uzbek prime minister Abdulhashim Mutalov declared himself

in favor of a gradual and common-sense approach to privatization which, in his opinion, should begin with local industries, consumer service enterprises, and trade.

Thanks to just such a government strategy, he advised, by 1992-93 over 15,000 workshops, ateliers, cafeterias, and tea-houses would find new proprietors. In the choice of properties, all sorts of working organizations, from joint-stock companies to private owners, will have equal rights.

The Uzbek prime minister noted that in the decision to privatize these areas, signed by president Islam Karimov, there exits various temporary measures. "Such a step may require that, in order to hasten the beginning of mass privatization, we must allow the process the opportunity to improve itself," explained Mutalov.

This, he said, will allow us to get even more experience, which in turn may help us to privatize large-scale enterprises. According to Mutalov, such enterprises as the Tashkent Agricultural Machinery Factory are already ready for privatization.

He noted that the government relies on the population of the republic to support the process of privatization; he recalls the result of a recent sociological survey which revealed that 63% of respondents were in favor of the fastest possible privatization of state-owned property, while only 21% were opposed. IF [INTERFAX] Note: Sukhrat Gafurov, the chairman of the republic's goskomimushestvo (State Committee for Property), emphasized at a meeting of the Cabinet of Ministers that privatization would proceed piecemeal and without haste so as "not to allow the lowering of the standard of living of the people."

National News Agency To Use Uzbek Exclusively

LD2709105292 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 2300 GMT 26 Sep 92

[Text] Beginning 1 January 1993, the Uzbek National Information Agency will produce information only in Uzbek, an assistant to the Agency's General Director Farukh Tuleganov announced.

Talking in the People's Court of Tashkent's Khanzimskiy district, where a case assessing the unfair dismissal from the agency of two Russian women journalists was held, Tuleganov emphasized that it made no sense to reinstate them in the job. Twice this year, the agency cut jobs in Russian-speaking editorial departments and created new jobs for Uzbek journalists. It was noted that before, there was an equal number of Uzbek and Russian-speaking journalists.

Azerbaijan

President Meets With British Trade Secretary

Supports Settlement With Armenia

OW2809212992 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2105 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Azeri President Abulfaz Elchibey has said that Baku still intends to resolve the Nagorno-Karabakh issue through mediation by international organizations, in particular, CSCE. During his today's meeting in Baku with the British Secretary for Trade and Industry, Michael Heseltine, he said that Azerbaijan had no reason to decline help by CSCE and in the future was going to settle the conflict with Armenia by peaceful means. At the same time, the President pointed out that Azerbaijan would never agree to the annexation of any part of its territory.

In Elchibey's opinion, the settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh issue would be possible, if prominent world figures, such as U.S. President George Bush, British Premier John Major, and Russian President Boris Yeltsin, could influence the situation in the region and put pressure on Armenia which had taken an uncompromising position.

In turn, Michael Heseltine said that Britain had already recognized Azerbaijan's territorial integrity. He added that, in his opinion, Nagorno-Karabakh was an integral part of Azerbaijan.

Receives Major's Message Urging Cease-Fire

NC2909114192 Baku TURAN in English 0921 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Text] Baku, 29 Sep (TURAN)—The Prime Minister of Great Britain John Major in his message to the President A. Elchibey of Azerbaijan has called on the confronting sides to cease fire in the dispute zone and negotiate the conflict at the bargaining table.

At the same time, J. Major outlined that the question on granting a special status for Nagorno-Karabakh should be out of discussion, because that is the Azeri territory, recognised by all world community.

J. Major invited the president of Azerbaijan to visit Great Britain at any time convenient for the president.

[Baku AZERINFORM in English at 0844 GMT on 29 September adds: "The message of prime-minister of Great Britain to Abulfaz Elchibey was very positively accepted by Republican authorities today. The message was given to Abulfaz Elchibey during the audience granted by Mr. Michael Heseltine, British trade and industry minister.

["According to Vafa Gulizadeh, foreign policy state adviser of Azerbaijan Republic, the message from Downing Street 10 gives the way for new prospects of mutually beneficial cooperation between two countries. The arrival of representatives of ten leading British companies as well as today's signing of several agreements, which are a new page in Azeri-British relations, will help the development of the cooperation between Azerbaijan and Great Britain.

["The decision of Azeri Government to give the BP company the right on exploration of the republican oil fields will strengthen the contracts between two countries, the prime minister of Great Britain stressed in his message. He also considers that a considerable British investments to Azeri oil will serve to strengthen commercial relations between partners.

["The problem of Karabakh conflict settlement is given a particular attention in the message of the prime minister. According to him the matter of official status of Nagorno-Karabakh can not be the point at issue, because Karabakh is the territory of Azerbaijan. The authorities of the Republic share in the position of the prime minister of Great Britain and consider that the attempts of certain Western circles to transfer the discussion of Karabakh problem from the CSCE to other international organizations are not constructive and what is more these attempts can tighten up a knot of the problem.

["President of Azerbaijan Abulfaz Elchibey accepted with gratitude the invitation of British Prime Minister John Major to visit Great Britain after elections to Azeri Parliament."]

Signs Trade Cooperation Pact

LD2809142492 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1021 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Text] Baku, 28 Sep (AZERINFORM-TASS)—"We would like to deepen economic ties with the Republic of Azerbaijan, and we are counting on the trust in us of its people and government." This was said by Michael Heseltine, secretary of state for trade and industry and president of the board of trade, during the signing today of a declaration on trade and economic cooperation between Great Britain and the Azerbaijani Republic.

The document was signed on the Azerbaijani side by First Deputy Prime Minister Vagid Akhmedov. Brian Fall, British ambassador plenipotentiary and extraordinary to Russia, was present at the signing ceremony.

Representatives of business circles and British businessmen arrived in the Azerbaijan capital together with M. Heseltine.

M. Heseltine is expected to be received today by Azerbaijan President Abulfaz Elchibey and Azerbaijani Supreme Soviet Chairman Isa Kamberov.

Heseltine, Others View Agreements

NC2909130692 Baku TURAN in English 1128 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Text] Baku, 28 Sep (TURAN)—As it has been already reported, a group of English businessmen, headed by the Trade and Industry Minister Michael Heseltine of Great Britain, arrived in Baku yesterday's evening.

This morning, after the completion of the official meeting of the English businessmen with the Azeri leadership, M. Heseltine and the First Vice-Premier V. Akhmedov have signed two protocols on co-operation among these two countries.

M. Heseltine stressed in his opening speech British business is investing money in Azerbaijan on the gentleman's terms and if the Azeri Government fails to pass a package of bills guaranteeing security for foreign capital investments then no one would even invest even a dollar in Azerbaijan. The minister also outlined that the foreign businessmen are expected to be more willing to further the investments in the Republic if the Azeri Government builds up and makes it public the concept of the republic's economic development. In a line with that, M. Heseltine stressed Azerbaijan, owning big oil resources, has much more potentialities to repay the foreign credits to compare with the CIS states.

First Vice-Premier of Azerbaijan Vakhid Akhmedov said to the TURAN correspondent the signed instruments made a good start for the British business to participate in such spheres of the Azeri economy as oil and oil refining industries, public health, agriculture, communication service, chemical industry and so on. Total amount of the British investments in Azerbaijan is estimated at tens of millions U.S. dollars.

The consultant of the BP company Tamara Dragadze said to the TURAN correspondent drastic steps made by such a big and well-known company as BP were taken by the West as a mark of the political stability in Azerbaijan and that made the foreign businessmen think about their own investments in Azerbaijan.

Nadzhaf Nadzhafov, the representative of the Azeri president to the talks with the British businessmen, thinks that Azerbaijani Parliament should work out and pass in the shortest possible time all the needed bills favouring the attraction of the West capital to the Azeri economy.

President Supports Expanding Ties With U.S.

OW2809181792 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1756 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Report prepared by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin; edited by Boris Grishchenko; from "Presidential Bulletin"—following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Azerbaijan's President Abulfaz Elchibey has expressed satisfaction at the level of ties his country is currently forging with the U.S., and said that "Azerbaijan is interested in expanding a comprehensive relationship with the U.S." He was speaking on Sunday [27 September] during a meeting with Mr. Richard Kauzlarich, director of the U.S. State Department's section responsible for Eastern Europe and the former USSR.

Mr. Kauzlarich said "the U.S. has an awareness and understanding of the difficulties encountered by Azerbaijan in trying to build a democratic country and a free market economy". He said the U.S. is prepared to assist Azerbaijan in reaching a negotiated settlement of the Karabakh problem, and is also interested in developing bilateral trade and economic ties with Azerbaijan.

During Mr. Kauzlarich's meeting with the speaker of Azerbaijan's parliament Isa Kamberov, the American official was told that the U.S. embassy in Baku plays an important part in disseminating objective information about Azerbaijan and ensuring political stability within the republic. Azerbaijan's embassy in the U.S. will be opened in the nearest future, Mr. Kamberov said.

President Extends State of Emergency

NC2809195292 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1900 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Text] President Abulfaz Elchibey's decree for the extension of the state of emergency in Fizulinskiy and Dzhebrailskiy Rayons is as follows:

According to the constitution of Azerbaijan, Article 121, Item four, Paragraph 16, I have decided the following:

1. The duration of the state of emergency in Fizulinskiy and Dzhebrailskiy Rayons, which was put into effect in the two rayons in accordance with the Presidential Decree No. 149, dated 21 August 1992, will be extended for 30 days.

2. This decree be submitted to the Azerbaijan National Assembly to be approved.

[Signed] Abulfaz Elchibey, president of Azerbaijan

Foreign Minister Addresses UN General Assembly

LD2609173592 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1550 GMT 25 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Boris Sitnikov]

[Text] United Nations September 25 TASS—Azeri Foreign Minister Tofik Gasymov addressed the 47th session of the United Nations General Assembly on Thursday.

Noting Azerbaijan has recently begun independent development, the minister pointed out the "explosive force" of freed national self- conscience opens new prospects, but, at the same time, can "serve to an ugly hypertrophied national idea and lead the people to the path of war".

After escaping an ideological split, Azerbaijan has faced "a danger of splitting on nationalistic reasons that feed the policy of separatism. The lack of juridically elaborated notion of 'the right of nations to self-determination' has provoked the wide spread of pseudo-democracy, a smoke screen for forces nurturing plans of territorial occupation".

Azerbaijan is gravely concerned over its conflict with Armenia around Nagorno-Karabakh.

"The Armenian people has fulfilled its historical right to self- determination within the limits of the Republic of Armenia. As for the Armenian minority residing on Azeri territory and enjoying the autonomy, the Azeri Republic has repeatedly declared its readiness to ensure its rights in accordance with the international norms".

Despite all difficulties and obstacles, "the process of peaceful settlement begun on the initiative of the CSCE and continued by the CSCE Minsk group under the chairmanship of Mister Raffaelli, should lead to the development of a peace dialogue between the two states.

"Ethnic minorities on territory of Armenia and Azerbaijan should not be a factor of disputes, but a guarantee of security and mutual respect to interests, and in future a bridge of cooperation.

"The problem of arms spreading becomes especially acute for the 'hotbeds'. The access to intelligence information on arms spreading, observation and surprise inspection of questionable areas are extremely important for the consolidation of the arms non- proliferation regime," stressed the minister.

A major factor of society stability is the sound economy. Azerbaijan pins certain hopes for holding the republican economic reforms on the international assistance "within the framework of special programs".

Gasymov lamented over "the stand of some countries connecting the assistance to young states with certain political strivings".

First Russian Observers for Karabakh Arrive

LD2809160992 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1252 GMT 28 Sep 92

[By AZERINFORM for TASS]

[Text] Baku September 28 TASS—First Russian observers who will monitor the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh arrived in Baku on Monday [28 September]. They are to be followed by envoys of Kazakhstan, Belarus and Ukraine. Observers will be stationed in five zones in the enclave and in border areas between Armenia and Azerbaijan, Azeri Defence Ministry said.

The ministry accused Armenian forces of mounting military activities in the north and south of Karabakh while the Azeri defence minister ordered to stop all combat operations in the enclave. Settlements of Agdam Region, as well as villages in the bordering Kazakh Region came under artillery fire on Monday, according to the ministry.

Local observers believe the Armenian leadership does not control its armed formations which can ruin the peace agreements reached in Sochi.

The ministry also protested the statement of the spokesman for the Armenian president who said that Armenia bears no responsibility for the actions of the Nagorno-Karabakh republic as it did not participate in the Sochi talks. In messages sent to defence ministers of Russia and Armenia, the Azeri ministry expressed its categoric disagreement with the Armenian statement and qualified as provocative the actions of "certain circles" both in Karabakh and Armenia.

Khamidov Calls Russian Troops 'Veiled' Aggression

NC2809172292 Baku TURAN in English 1152 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Text] Baku, (28 Sept) TURAN—As a "blazing declaration" classifies the Azeri Interior Minister I. Khamidov the statement of the Russian Defence Minister P. Grachev on the possibility of dispatching the CIS peace-keeping forces to Nagorno-Karabakh.

I. Khamidov, addressing to the Azeri population through the local TV, outlined "The Commonwealth has no joint armed forces but only Russian forces" and regarded an attempt of bringing troops into Karabakh as "new stage of confrontation with Azerbaijan and new occupation of the Republic."

"Russia never had peace-keeping forces. Its Army has been used only for annexation of foreign territories with Afghanistan and Czechoslovakia for example. And it is perfectly clear that bringing of the Russian peace-keeping forces into Azerbaijan is nothing else but a veiled form of aggression," said the minister.

Nakhichevan Interior Minister, Others Discharged

NC2609053292 Baku ASSA-IRADA in English 1611 GMT 25 Sep 92

[Text] Baku, 25 Sep (ASSA-IRADA)—Asker Alekperov, new interior minister of Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic, recently elected by the Republic's Milli Mejlis, on an alternative base has been discharged from his post and from Interior Ministry office as a whole by the order of Azeri interior minister.

REAL information agency of Nakhichevan reports all deputy ministers of this autonomous republic and chiefs of the 5 leading departments of the Ministry have also been given a sack. Iskander Mamidov appointed Tahir Allahyarov, head of criminal investigation department, as 1st deputy interior minister of Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic (the post that is not dependent to Supreme Mejlis) and entrusted the latter with the duties of the minister. Yesterday, Iskander Hamidov fired from interior bodies the

chief of the Ordubad District police Raik Ahmedov, "REAL" agency reports. The session of the District Police Department sanctioned to this post a teacher of literature Ilgar Mamedov. The policemen of Ordubad, the second in importance city of Nakhichevan, launched a rally of protest supported by the district population. The rally's demand is to veto the decision by the district police department and have the former chief back.

Georgia

Sigua Says Commissioners Undermining Abkhaz Pact

OW2809183192 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1759 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Report prepared by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin; edited by Boris Grishchenko; from "Presidential Bulletin"—following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] In a statement made public on Sunday [27 September], Mr. Tengiz Sigua, Georgia's Prime Minister and co-chairman of the commission for control and inspection in Abkhazia, said that from the very first days of the activities of the commission, set up to implement the final documents of the Moscow meeting, it has been clear that "some of its members who support Abkhaz secessionists are doing their utmost to undermine agreements reached in Moscow and review its final document".

"Irresponsible acquiescence in the ambitions and groundless claims of Abkhaz leaders, who have created a neo-Nazi regime in Abkhazia, has resulted in bloodshed and killings of innocent civilians (including Russian citizens) continuing in this autonomous republic, and damage being inflicted on the economies of the two Transcaucasian republics", Mr Sigua writes.

The statement goes on to say that, in spite of the final document of the Moscow meeting, the so-called Confederation of Caucasian Mountain Peoples has not withdrawn its "bandit formations" out of Abkhazia. Support is being given to the Abkhazians' attempts to link the settlement of this question to the presence there of Georgia's troops, which are described in no other way except as occupation forces by the Abkhazians.

The statement says that for their part Georgians—guided by a desire to achieve peace and understanding—have moved their troops to specified areas immediately after an agreement to this effect was reached.

One of the central provisions of the final document—which required lines of transportation to be brought back into operation - has not been implemented. Abkhazia's railway has yet to resume its operation, and traffic has not been re-opened along the local highway. Russia's representatives on the commission charged with monitoring the situation in Abkhazia all but neglect these facts.

Numerous witnesses report, the statement says, that Russia's troops often assist Abkhazians in shipping military hardware to their republic, and help groups of armed bandits infiltrate Abkhazia's border. Russia does not agree its troop movements with Georgia's military authorities.

The prime minister believes that many mass media are carrying on a purposeful propaganda campaign designed to persuade the world public opinion that Georgia is violating human rights in Abkhazia. As a rule the facts cited are not checked and turn out to be untrue, Mr Sigua says. "Even after lies have been uncovered (as in the case of "kidnapping and arrest" of I. Chania, plundering of Abkhaz cultural objects, or destruction of monuments), Russian mass media do not take the trouble to tell the truth to readers and spectators.

The mass media controlled by the Abkhaz government continue to wage an unrestrained anti-Georgian campaign, are fanning up passions, and are calling for the war to be carried on "until a victorious end". These acts do not promote improved Russian-Georgian relations, the statement concludes.

Contradictory Reports on Fighting in Abkhazia

LD2809174192 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1500 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Correspondent M. Maksimovskaya report; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] In Abkhazia contradictory reports are continuing to arrive.

[Maksimovskaya] According to reports from Georgian and Abkhazian sources in the conflict zone, last night passed quietly in the area of Sukhumi. Meanwhile, the fighting near Gagra is not ceasing and the agreement on disengagement of forces there is not being fulfilled. According to claims by Abkhazian representatives, the troops of the Georgian State Council tried to advance further, but were repulsed, losing two armored vehicles in the process.

Exchanges of fire continue near the village of Kolkhida. In turn, Georgian official representatives affirm that the enemy also used armored vehicles in combat actions last night. The Georgian side announced the destruction of several snipers from detachments of the Confederation of Mountain Peoples of the Caucasus which currently are in Abkhazia. In this connection, Radio Liberty drew attention to the statement by Abkhaz leaders that the withdrawal of their allies, the North Caucasus volunteers, will be postponed for an indefinite time because Georgia is violating the truce.

Three Russian Soldiers Killed Near Tbilisi

LD2809173392 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1505 GMT 28 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS freelance correspondent Mikhail Kasoyev]

[Text] Tbilisi, 28 Sep (TASS)—Three Russian Army soldiers stationed in Georgia were killed in Tbilisi during the night of 26-27 September. The Army procuracy of the Transcaucasian Military District, together with investigators of the Georgian Procuracy and representatives of the republican Ministry of Defense, have started investigating the circumstances of the tragedy that took place on the Kakhetinskoye highway near the city.

At the time of the incident the driver of an army vehicle and two armed escorting soldiers took an officer of the Transcaucasian Military District headquarters to the village of Vadiani where he lived. According to preliminary information, on the way back they did not obey an order by a patrol of the Georgian internal troops and the police who were checking all the vehicles entering Tbilisi. Ignoring the order to halt, they continued to drive on. The patrol opened fire with automatic weapons and the servicemen returned the fire. Two of them died on the spot and one is in grave condition.

The investigation has obtained the machine-guns belonging to the killed and wounded, and intends to examine them to establish whether exchange of fire really took place, or whether the soldiers were killed without warning.

First Caucasian Combatants Leaving Abkhazia

LD2809180492 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1611 GMT 28 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tengiz Pachkoriya]

[Text] Sukhumi September 28 TASS—The first 100 fighters of the Confederation of Highland Nations will leave Abkhazia on Monday [28 September] on board Russian aircraft.

Georgian Prime Minister Tengiz Sigua has allowed Russian planes departing from Groznyy, capital of the Chechen Republic, to land in Gudauty to pick up Confederation soldiers.

An agreement to begin the withdrawal was reached on Saturday after a Chechen delegation visited Sukhumi, capital of Abkhazia.

The delegation, headed by Ibragim Suleymanov, head of the parliamentary Committee for Security and Defence, met with Deputy Abkhazian Parliamentary Speaker Tamaz Nadareishvili and Givi Lominadze, head of the Interim Committee for the Stabilisation of the Situation in Abkhazia. The meeting was also attended by the Georgian military.

The withdrawal of troops will be monitored by Georgian, Russian and Abkhazian observers.

Tripartite Commission Observers Arrive in Gagra

OW2909003092 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1513 GMT 28 Sep 92

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] On Monday [28 September], a joint group of observers of the tripartite commission for control and inspection in Abkhazia arrived in Gagra to establish 4 observation posts along the frontline on the river Bzyb. In accordance with the earlier-reached agreements the Georgian side will move its troops to the north-west of Gagra, while the Abkhazian armed units will move south-east of Pitsunda.

S. Ossetia Official on Relations With Russia

AU2909090392 Prague RESPEKT in Czech No. 38 21-27 Sep 92 p 11

[Interview with Torez Georgiyevich Kulumbegov, chairman of the parliament of South Ossetia, by Radan Haluzik in Tskhinvali; date not given: "We Liked the Party's Ideas"]

[Text] After three years, the shooting in South Ossetia ceased this July. The so-called Dagomys Accord and subsequent talks held in Tskhinvali—a former battlefield—involving Russia, Georgia, and South Ossetia, provided for a joint peacekeeping unit to be set up within a few weeks to separate the fighting sides and it has maintained the ceasefire so far. Since a similar operation was also carried out in the Dniester region with Russia's support, Russia is again being spoken about as the guarantor of peace in the conflict regions of the CIS. This, and other problems, were the subject of an interview with Torez Georgiyevich Kulumbegov, chairman of the Supreme Soviet of South Ossetia, by a RESPEKT reporter.

Ossetians Do Not Want To Remain in Georgia

[Haluzik] The peacekeeping forces will not stay here forever. Do you have a plan of how to proceed when they withdraw? Actually, how do you want to solve the problem of South Ossetia's status?

[Kulumbegov] The problem is that the peacekeeping forces cannot leave soon. It is impossible in such a short period of time to stop a conflict that has lasted for three years. New bloodshed would erupt and it would be very difficult to solve it.

We have shown our opinion on the future of South Ossetia in a referendum. Nothing has changed for the better since. They went on destroying and killing us. Over 1,000 people were killed during the three-year war. Reincorporating our country into Georgia would bring us nothing good. That is why I believe that no Ossetian will say today: I want to remain in Georgia.

[Haluzik] Does that mean that, on the basis of the cited referendum, you will eventually become part of Russia?

[Kulumbegov] The question in the referendum was: "Do you want to live in an independent republic of South Ossetia?". A total of 99 percent of those participating in the referendum said yes. The second question was: "Do You Want Your Country To Be Part of Russia?". A total of 96 percent said yes. Not because of Russia, but because North Ossetia is there. If they are uniting in Germany, Korea, and Vietnam, then why shouldn't Ossetians live in a common state? Historically, we were a single state and we came under Russian rule as one whole. They divided us only in 1918. I believe that if Shevardnadze pushed for the reunification of Germany, he should also have pushed for the unification of both Ossetias. There are not many of us, we cannot shout as loud as the large nations can.

[Haluzik] What are your relations with the Russian leadership?

[Kulumbegov] They are not bad. Just now, a question of Russian economic help to South Ossetia is being discussed. We need money and building material to restore the devastated economy, and to put our enterprises, factories, and schools into operation. The question of financial aid will be discussed in the Russian government.

[Haluzik] What is your current political and economic orientation? Do you want to stick to socialist development?

[Kulumbegov] Look, we want to gradually implement manufacturing relations that will make possible the rapid reconstruction of Ossetia and the development of production facilities. Later on, we want to introduce free enterprise, like anywhere else in the civilized world.

[Haluzik] What influence does the Communist Party have in Ossetia?

[Kulumbegov] We in South Ossetia liked its ideas, but not its actions. This is our position and we will continue to make a critical analysis of the past.

If We Had the Nuclear Bomb, I Would Know It

[Haluzik] Why are only 3 percent of the men in the tripartite peacekeeping forces, that is, in the Ossetian part, from South Ossetia?

[Kulumbegov] First, we agreed that we would have forces composed of four parts. But then Georgia objected that Russians are basically on our side, and North Ossetia, too. That is, if South Ossetia delivered its contingent of the troops, it would be a power play. I asked them why they did not take into account the fact that only 2 percent of the whole of Georgia consists of South Ossetians? So, what kind of power play would it be? Since we did not want to block the establishment of the units, we agreed, finally.

[Haluzik] The peacekeeping units' command is formally in the hands of the commanders of all the three parties. Do you not think that the Ossetian part is under the strong influence of Russians?

[Kulumbegov] I would not say so. Moreover, they have virtually accomplished their mission—they have separated the fighting sides and now they are helping with the reconstruction of our demolished economy and infrastructure. They can only bring benefits, and not harm.

[Haluzik] Where are your armed forces that defended South Ossetia now?

[Kulumbegov] What armed forces? We were talking simply about defense. Defense against attacks, only. They are at home now, living a peaceful life, and are rebuilding the devastated economy. From those who did not participate in combat actions, we established units controlled by militia and the prosecutor's office. They are expected to keep order, protect against robberies, looting, etc.

[Haluzik] A report appeared in the Czechoslovak media recently that, according to your Prime Minister Teziev, South Ossetia is capable of using nuclear weapons against Georgia, if necessary. Is that true?

[Kulumbegov] I personally have never said anything like that. I know that we simply do not have such weapons. The prime minister may have special information, but I believe that, if we had something like that, I would know it.

Shevardnadze Will Want the Territory Back

[Haluzik] What is your attitude toward the chairman of the State Council of Georgia, Shevardnadze, and the leadership in Tbilisi, in general?

[Kulumbegov] A negative one. Nothing has changed in the politics with the fall of Gamsakhurdia. With the exception that Gamsakhurdia never had the weapons that they have available today. They did not give him weapons, but they gave them to Shevardnadze, irrespective of the fact that he continued military actions. Georgia, as one of the successor states, is receiving tanks, helicopters, and armored vehicles from the Transcaucasian military district of the former Soviet Army.... Why are they giving those weapons to them? The weapons are to be used against us and Abkhazians.

[Haluzik] Do you expect anything will change after the elections in Georgia scheduled for 11 October?

[Kulumbegov] Of course, it will. As soon as Shevardnadze acquires legal powers, he will certainly seek to get the strategic territories back. In Georgia they say: Let everyone serve Georgia as Georgians want it—if not, let them go away. Shevardnadze has not distanced himself from this idea, otherwise he would not wage war with Abkhazia.

[Haluzik] Do you have precise data on the number of people who fled to North Ossetia during the conflict, and those who returned here during the cease-fire? In Georgia they say that along with the refugees, people who have never lived here before, too, are coming from North Ossetia.

[Kulumbegov] In North Ossetia, there are some 130,000 refugees from South Ossetia, and Ossetians from the center of Georgia. As of today, some 30,000 have returned. People do not return to central Georgia, since there is no guarantee of security.

People from North Ossetia cannot get here. We are verifying where the people are coming from. If we have nothing here, how could we give it away to North Ossetians?

What the Georgian side is saying is another thing. They say they are "settling new people there." But what are they themselves doing? They have destroyed all the Ossetian villages, and instead of helping us to rebuild them, they are building villages for their own people and moving new people there. Nothing like that is happening here. They have destroyed everything that was ours here. Who will come here, to live in these ruins?

Estonia

Premier Refuses Minister's Post in Government

OW2509131792 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1223 GMT 25 Sep 92

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Estonian Prime Minister Tiit Vahi refused the post of transport minister in the future government offered to him by the electoral bloc Isamaa (Pro Patria) which had won the September 20 parliamentary election.

Tiit Vahi said he did not want to be given "only one oar in a boat." Vahi was the transport and communications minister in Edgar Savisaar's government.

First Round of National Elections Analyzed

PM2509092592 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Sep 92 Morning Edition pp 1, 2

[Leonid Levitskiy report: "Elections in Estonia: Making Concessions to the Radicals, the Moderates Are Losing"]

[Text] On 20 September the citizens of Estonia elected a president of the republic and members of the State Assembly. According to preliminary results 67 percent of voters— just over 400,000 people—took part in the vote. No presidential candidate managed to amass more than half of the votes. Supreme Council Chairman Arnold Ruutel received most support—42 percent of those who came to the polling stations. Lennart Meri received 28 percent, Rejn Taagaper—23 percent, and Lagle Parek—3.8 percent.

These are the initial results. But they give grounds also for initial conclusions...

Any political campaign has its script, its spring, and its driving belt. The script of the first elections for an Estonian president and members of the State Assembly since 1934 was based on two key factors. The right to vote was granted only to citizens of the republic, that is, to those who lived there before 16 June 1940 and their descendants. This narrowed the circle of voters from 1.14 million to 620,000-630,000. Over 90 percent of people allowed to take part in the elections are Estonians, and over 90 percent of those not allowed to take part are non-Estonians.

The second feature is that the elections were held according to party lists. The parties and electoral unions nominated four presidential candidates and around 600 candidates for the State Assembly. Twenty-five people ventured to conduct a hopeless campaign for deputies' mandates independently.

Arnold Ruutel, the current chairman of the Supreme Council, nominated for the presidency by the "Kindel Kodu" ["Secure Home"] union, was thought to have the most chances. The national radical bloc "Isamaa" ["Homeland"] put forward Lennart Meri—until recently minister of foreign affairs, now ambassador to Finland—as a rival to A. Ruutel. In spring 1988 he was one of the first to speak of the threat of extinction facing the Estonian nation and of the need for a sharp change in the demographic structure of the population. He offered to pay good money for those times to anyone who voluntarily left the republic. Meri is frankly afraid of Russia. He would like to bring Estonia into all European organizations and unions as quickly as possible in order to defend it from its Eastern neighbor. For the sake of this he has even offered to turn the republic into a cordon sanitaire against Russia.

Analyzing the activity and views of A. Ruutel, some commentators are perplexed: To all intents and purposes they coincide with the principles of "Isamaa" in the most important areas—with regard to the Russian-speaking population, the Russian Army, and border questions. Only a high political culture, restraint in language, and consistency in decisions maintain its former image as a centrist party. Ruutel differs from the leaders of "Isamaa" in one respect—regarding the nomenklatura, the former economic and state cadres. Also, he is no advocate of a rapid and sweeping breakup of agriculture and industry.

The People's Front also put up their own rival to Ruutel. This is Rejn Taagaper—a Canadian citizen, a professor of a California university, and a very well-known person in Estonia. Back in the seventies he moved away from the old emigre organizations and elaborated a theoretical model for achieving Estonian independence which was useful to the People's Front in determining their strategy and tactics. At his first election conference Taagaper stated: "Our great neighbor is and remains Russia, and we should treat it with greater respect than we do now."

The preliminary election results are already known to readers—no candidate gained the required majority of votes. Extensive analyses and commentaries will follow the final results. The riddle is: Ruutel always had the highest rating among the population. And suddenly... I think that there was no "suddenly" about it. Sociologists polled the population, but it was the people who voted. In today's Estonia these are, alas, by no means identical concepts.

Many Russians always supported Ruutel, seeing in him a champion against the national radicals. The chairman of the Supreme Council, having supported the principle of the continuity of citizenship during discussion and voting, left his numerous supporters without the right to vote, and left him without their votes. The drastic alteration in the demographic structure of the electorate is perhaps the main cause for A. Ruutel's loss at the first stage of the battle for the presidency. For this same reason "Isamaa" has scored a double victory: The bloc has not lost the hope of having its own president, and has been more successful than the other parties in getting its deputies into the State Assembly.

Without Russian votes the People's Front lost to "Homeland" in every area. Of course, the movement has

been weakened by the fact that Maria Lauristin withdrew her Social Democrats and several other organizations from it. Nevertheless, Russian votes always meant a lot for the People's Front. It should be noted that in this complex situation, despite the swing of the Estonian population to the right, the movement did not fear to go to the polls with the most sober "Russian program."

"A very dangerous situation has arisen right now in our country, in which national interests are being supplanted by national instincts. The leadership of the People's Front takes the following position: Both state interests, and national interests, in the widest sense of this word, must be defended"—this is the position of Supreme Council Deputy and State Assembly candidate Rejn Veydemann, expounded in ESTONIA shortly before the elections. Let us see how these words are received.

At a news conference on the day of the elections the People's Front declared its readiness to set up a coalition government. The offer was addressed primarily to "Homeland." Agreement between factions in the State Assembly on a joint candidate for the presidency could serve as the first step, an "induction subscription to the coalition." At the first session of the State Assembly the deputies will elect a president of the republic from the two candidates who amassed the greatest number of votes. Thus both A. Ruutel and L. Meri have a further two weeks of anxiety ahead.

There were no incidents on the day of the elections, nor was it even a public holiday. This quiet is being observed by all foreign journalists and observers. They are also observing something else: A third of the adult population is not permitted to the polls. The proportion of disfranchised persons in the cities is even higher. In Narva only 6 percent of the 65,000 electors of the Supreme Council are citizens. And only this 6 percent voted in the State Assembly elections. The Russian-speaking population will go virtually unrepresented in it. And this will not increase the strength of parliament. If the political scientists are to be believed, the State Assembly, like the Supreme Council will lay down its powers before term. This is the unhappy prospect: The first day has not yet arrived, and the last day is already being predicted...

Committee Leaders: Congress Meets Main Goals

OW2609035292 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1803 GMT 25 Sep 92

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The 10th and final session of the Estonian Congress will be held on Saturday, September 26. Since its first session in March of 1990, when the Estonian Committee was elected, the Congress has held 87 meetings and adopted nearly 140 statements, appeals, and resolutions.

Leaders of the Estonian Committee said at a Friday press conference in Tallinn that the Estonian Congress and the Estonian Committee had actually fulfilled all of their main goals: the restoration of the principle of legal succession and civil rights for Estonians. The legitimate supreme body of Estonia, the State Assembly, will start work on October 5.

Committee Chairman Tunne Kelam pointed out that the Estonian Congress had become the first "alternative, democratic, non-Soviet" representative body on the territory of the former Soviet Union. More than 20 similar bodies have since been created on the Estonian Congress model in the former USSR: in Tatarstan, Bashkortostan, Chechen, Karelia, Dagestan, and various other republics.

Figures Indicate Decrease in Industrial Output

LD2709093192 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 1200 GMT 25 Sep 92

[Excerpt] ETA reports that Estonian industrial output decreased by 66 percent from January to July. A current survey of the industry and energy ministry has been produced on the basis of 281 industrial enterprises which provided production results to the statistical department. A large section of private businesses were excluded even though it is known that private firms constitute 20 percent of the output and services. A total of 43 enterprises did not work in July. No phosphate fertilizers, summer houses, agricultural machinery, power cable, cellulose, mineral wool, pressed aluminum plates and dishes, flaxen yarn, silk material, children's coats, synthetic washing powder in small packages, protein and vitamin supplements, fodder protein, or cardboard were manufactured. [passage omitted]

Trade Agreement With Uzbekistan Reached

LD2709110792 Tallinn Estonian Television Network in Estonian 1800 GMT 19 Sep 92

[Text] A trade and economic agreement was concluded yesterday between Estonia and Uzbekistan in Tashkent. The agreement calls for a most-favored-nation status to be applied to trade, establishing of export-import firm representations, and joint ventures for the production of consumer goods both in Estonia and Uzbekistan. The Estonian delegation was led by Trade Minister Andres Tamm.

Russian Government Urged To Repatriate Russians

LD2709212192 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 2205 GMT 25 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Albert Maloveryan]

[Text] Tallinn, 26 Sep—A session of the Congress of Estonian Citizens opens here today. Convened in March 1990, the Congress is a voluntary public forum, bringing together citizens of the prewar Estonian Republic, their direct descendants, and also—in an advisory capacity—persons wishing to acquire Estonian citizenship in accordance with the "pre-occupation" law.

The congress stands for the legal and actual restoration of the prewar-type of sovereign Estonian state and the rehabilitation of a constitutional organ of power in the

form of a state assembly, elected from legal-continuity citizens, and only by the actual citizens, irrespective of their place of permanent residence.

It is common knowledge that over 40 percent of the republic's permanent population were not allowed to take part in electing the state assembly, since they were neither citizens nor descendants of citizens, according to restored Estonian laws. The legal status of most of this category of the population has not been defined at all. Since they are mainly representatives of Slav and other peoples of the Russian Federation, the Congress has long striven to bring about their compulsory self-determination: All those who do not hold Estonian citizenship or some third country should, in the Congress's view, be regarded as citizens of Russia as the legal successor to the collapsed USSR. Moreover, Russia should facilitate the voluntary repatriation of its citizens.

This repatriation, a Congress leadership message to the Russian Government says, "as well as the unconditional withdrawal of the occupation troops" and recognition of the Russo-Estonian Tartu peace treaty of 1920 as the starting point for bilateral interstate relations, "should be part of the compensation for the historical damage inflicted on the Estonian people." Russia's recognition of the Tartu peace treaty is extremely important to Estonia, since, if that were to happen, Estonia would reckon that its territorial claims to Russian lands to the east and south, forming part of Leningrad and Pskov oblasts, would be met.

Latvia

Officials Protest Russian Submarine Sales

OW2909110992 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1044 GMT 29 Sep 92

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Latvian Minister of State Janis Dinevics and Deputy Interior Minister Martins Virsis have protested against Russia using Latvian territory for submarine trade. At a Monday [28 September] meeting with foreign ambassadors to Riga they said that the process is possible because of the presence of the Russian Army in the country.

According to the Latvian Foreign Ministry, during the past two years Russia has signed deals on the sale of submarines stationed in Latvia with Iraq, Libya and Iran.

Gorbunovs Addresses UN General Assembly 25 Sep

LD2709143992 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 1200 GMT 25 Sep 92

[Text] [Announcer] On 25 September, at about 1700 Latvian time, Latvian Supreme Council Chairman Anatolijs Gorbunovs addressed the 47th UN General Assembly session in New York. You will now hear a brief fragment of his speech:

[Begin Gorbunovs recording] More than a year has passed since the Republic of Latvia, supported by the world's democratic forces, restored its state independence. This year can first of all be described as the year of the revival of the institutions of an independent state. It is a complex process, in which we are also learning from our mistakes. The accumulated experience of our own and other lands makes this process ever more effective.

The aim of independent Latvia to become a democratic state with a free market has not changed. Also unchanged are Latvia's efforts at the same time to seek an optimal solution to two topical necessities: To do away with the injustices created by 50 years of occupation, and guarantee rights to all the inhabitants of Latvia. Still located on the territory of Latvia are the troops of another state. In addition, the sovereign authority of the state is denied the right to control them. The uncontrollability of this army, and sometimes spontaneous demobilization, the arbitrary (?self-concealed) merging with economic and civil structures create threats that—uncontrolled—could mean distributing weapons, even on an international scale.

No other country in the world has as many serving and retired military personnel in proportion to the civilian population as Latvia. Besides, a small country such as Latvia is being asked to provide its social benefits to contingents of a great power's forces, which are to be withdrawn from Latvia. At present, Latvians who were left to live in Siberia after the mass deportations in 1941 and 1949 cannot find a place to live in their homeland. Facing a similar situation are those Latvians who fled to the West in the time of the communist regime's repressions, and now wish to return to their fatherland. The great power is also trying to dictate what should be the country's political basis, the composition of its citizens.

We welcome Russia's promise to observe Paragraph 15 of the final declaration of the CSCE summit conference held in July this year in which the participant states obliged themselves to bring to an end the presence of a foreign state's troops on the territory of the Baltics without the necessary agreement of these states. We, for our part, can testify to Latvia's desire to achieve, in talks with Russia, the consistent application of this paragraph. Unfortunately we still do not see equal interest on the Russian side. Furthermore, voices are heard in the Russian parliament saying that the agreement already reached with Lithuania on the withdrawal of troops must be annulled.

In talks with Latvia, too, the Russian delegation continually changes its stance, sometimes on issues on which agreement had previously been reached. These circumstances prompt Latvia, together with the other Baltic states, to ask for the inclusion of this question on the agenda of the 47th session of the UN General Assembly. Latvia also turns to the UN Security Council with a request to send observers to take part in Latvia's talks with Russia; we also ask Russia to agree to this.

Mr. President, one of the most difficult consequences created by the annexation is the fact that as a result on uncontrolled immigration and colonial policy, the demographic situation in Latvia has changed dangerously. In no other country in the world during the last 50 years, as a result of colonial policy, has the native nationality become a minority in its own country, at the expense of the immigrants. No other country in the world, as a result of occupation by two criminal regimes—the Communist and the Nazi—has lost as many of its native inhabitants. However, this has happened in Latvia. Therefore, now, in the state of Latvia, huge efforts must be devoted to saving the country's language, the basic mark of the parliament's adopted law on citizenship, whose main criteria for integrity would be 10 years' residence in Latvia and knowledge of the Latvian language at conversational level. This law will acquire the force of legality if it is accepted in a referendum of our citizens. At present, all the permanent residents of Latvia are being registered, giving each an opportunity to freely express their wish to become a citizen of the Republic of Latvia or else remain the citizen of another state, that of their ethnic homeland. Furthermore the laws of Latvia guarantee them all the human rights laid down in international norms, which not uncommonly, consciously, or unconsciously, are confused with the right to citizenship.

We reject the accusations levelled by the Russian Federation of discrimination against smaller nationalities in Latvia, and we are prepared to receive experts from the UN Human Rights Commission in Latvia in the near future. [end recording]

Because of (?time) considerations we are not (?broadcasting) the entire speech, which lasted approximately 20 minutes. Apart from these issues, Anatolijs Gorbunovs also touched on the decolonization problems of Latvia, security questions in Europe and the world, the question of small nations, the ecological situation, and Latvia's payments into the UN budget.

Godmanis, Ukraine's Fokin Discuss Mutual Finances

LD2709153392 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 2000 GMT 25 Sep 92

[Text] On 25 September, Chairman of the Council of Ministers Ivars Godmanis met with Vitold Fokin, the prime minister of Ukraine. Taking part in the talk was the Minister of the State Department Anatoliy Minchenko, and the vice president of the Bank of Ukraine [words indistinct]. Also taking part in the talks on the Latvian side were Foreign Minister Janis Jurkans, Minister of Foreign Trade Edgars Zausajevs, Vice President of the Bank of Latvia Ilmars Rimsevics, and other people.

The discussion concerned the mutual financial accounting between the two countries, paying particular attention to the Ukrainian debt to Latvia of 1.8 billion rubles. Representatives of the Ukrainian Government promised to carefully explain the causes of this debt and find ways of settling it. The two countries' leaders reported to each other on the current quite complex economic and financial relations with Russia, also predicting future developments.

Defense Official on Decision to Abolish Navy

LD2509215392 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 0500 GMT 21 Sep 92

[Excerpt] Last week the Supreme Council, in the first reading of a draft law on state defense, decided that Latvia did not need a navy or, as it is now called, naval forces. An article on this subject was also published in the 26 September issue of DIENA. Latvian radio has asked Colonel Dainis Turlajs, commander of the Defense Forces of the Defense Ministry of the Republic of Latvia, and Naval Captain Gaidis Zeibots, the commander of the now almost abolished Naval Forces, to speak about this issue. Correspondent Janis Podins talked to them.

[Begin recording] [Podins] Last week, at the same time when you and Naval Captain Zeibots, commander of the Naval Forces, were in Brussels at a NATO seminar, our Supreme Council considered three questions concerning state defense. Unfortunately, the result at the Supreme Council was not in favor of the Defense Forces, because, for example, a decision to abolish the Navy was almost fully adopted.

[Turlajs] I heard this staggering news immediately after returning home. Well, I have not once said that we have a situation where we win support.... [changes thought] We are a maritime state, and there was a talk about this in Brussels, where we see the best cooperation, the best opportunities to cooperate in exactly this sphere of defense with neighboring states—not with NATO, but at least with those NATO states that are on the Baltic Sea. These are the questions concerning the Navy and the Baltic Sea. This is where we have gained the largest support, and suddenly we get a blow from our state, putting us into a situation that cannot be called serious. How do we explain this to those partners with whom we are practically conducting talks? Because not a single state on the Baltic Sea.... [changes thought] Well, it seems to me that not even in our most horrible nightmare would we be able to do without our own Navy, without our own border protection. Nor are there people who would entrust the protection of the border to a local fishing cooperative or to some other company with limited responsibility or liability. I think the border cannot be protected this way. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Prosecutor's Office Accussed of Forgery

OW2609072492 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1541 GMT 25 Sep 92

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Former deputy commander of the Riga OMON [Special Purpose Militia Detachment] special forces Sergey Parfenov has accused the Latvian General Prosecutor's Office of forgery and falsifying documents.

In an appeal to the Russian Foreign Ministry, Parfenov stated that specially prepared material on his illegal criminal activity was being published in the Latvian press, while investigators have at times called him the leader of formations and a killer.

Parfenov also stated that he is under psychological pressure. Parfenov is taken to court in a vehicle together with criminals, and in court he is kept in a metal cage. The court has refused his petition to allow the co-chairman of the Latvian Committee on Human Rights to testify in his defense. Testimony which does not confirm his guilt, the prosecutor's office explains, is from witnesses who are afraid of the OMON.

According to Parfenov, his family in Riga has been receiving anonymous threats.

The former deputy commander of OMON in Riga has requested aid in returning him to his homeland. Parfenov states that if he did anything against the law, he is ready to answer for it in a Russian court, but at the same time he is ready to swear that he never used weapons or professional skills against the civilian public.

BALTFAX has learned from informed sources that the Russian Foreign Ministry's consular services will soon start to aid Parfenov's family.

In addition to this, Parfenov continues to be counted as an employee of the Tyumen Committee for Social Security, where he worked until his arrest. BALTFAX has information stating that the Tyumen authorities will soon decide whether to give his family housing in the area.

Government To Acquire Property for Bonn Embassy

OW2409125492 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1108 GMT 24 Sep 92

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Latvia's Government has allocated to the Foreign Ministry the 3.1 million deutsche marks received from the sale in 1988 of the land plot occupied by the former Latvian Embassy in Berlin.

The money is mainly to be spent on a plot of land and building to house the new Latvian Embassy in Bonn.

Lithuania

Landsbergis Brussels Trip, NATO Contacts Viewed

PM2909103992 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Sep 92 p 3

[Correspondent Vladimir Peresada report: "In NATO's Embrace. V. Landsbergis Reaches Top C"]

[Text] Brussels, 24 Sep—V. Landsbergis, chairman of the Lithuanian Supreme Council, has visited Brussels. His visit followed, as they usually say here, a "triple program"—he visited Belgium and the headquarters of the North Atlantic alliance and the EC.

A concrete result of the visit was the opening in the Belgian capital of a Lithuanian Embassy, over which Landsbergis himself hoisted the national flag. However, that was not the "heart" of the trip. The most curious, not to say provocative, thing happened during Landsbergis' visit to NATO's Brussels office.

I am referring to what he said at the NATO Council session there and also at the news conference afterwards. Hitherto none of the leaders of the states who are not members of this bloc had perhaps sung such praises of it as Landsbergis. His "highest note," his high C, was his claim that Lithuania views the alliance as an "indispensable element of European security" and a "guarantor of stability on the continent."

This statement would have looked funny were it not for the other words uttered at the same time, showing that Vilnius' desire for rapid rapprochement with the bloc is behind its excessive eulogies. This is not merely out of some abstract "love of stability," but in a clearly anti-Russian context. Addressing his NATO audience, Landsbergis frequently referred to "threats" and "pressure" to which he said Lithuania is being subjected. Without casting doubt on Moscow's readiness to implement the schedule signed recently for the Russian troop withdrawal from Lithuanian territory by 31 August next year, he nevertheless effectively called for NATO or the WEU to participate in supervising the troop withdrawal.

Moreover, Landsbergis said that NATO could help Lithuania create national armed forces, including training troops, holding joint maneuvers, providing expert assistance in formulating military doctrine, and so on. As in the case of the Russian troop withdrawal, he justified the "expediency" of all this by saying that "certain circles in Moscow" who have not lost their "imperial thinking" are still talking about Russia's "special strategic interests" in the Baltic. At this point the Lithuanian visitor did not even rule out the prospect of a "Dniester scenario" and a military operation involving Russian troops in the Baltic.

How did NATO respond to this? As you might have expected. The Lithuanian visitor's statements enabled the West to demonstrate more definitely than before its "concern" at the situation in the former USSR's Baltic zone. NATO Secretary General M. Woerner received Landsbergis and hastened to say that the NATO countries are interested not only in Lithuanian security, but also in protecting it from outside pressure and interference. The "foreign policy men" in Moscow must think hard about what this may mean.

IMF Experts, Ministry Officials Hold Talks

WS2909130892 Vilnius ELTA NEWS BULLETIN in English 1335 GMT 28 Sep 92

[From ELTA "NEWS BULLETIN" No. 88]

[Text] 28 September 1992—The experts on the balance of payment from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Alan James and Jan Bove visited the Lithuanian Ministry of Economics and the Department of Statistics. Together with the Lithuanian experts they discussed the international demands for accounts and balance of payment. Head of the Lithuanian Department of Statistics Vladimir Trukshin noted that, when providing financial aid, the International Monetary Fund and other international organizations demand reliable statistical data and, especially, a reliable balance of payment.

The Lithuanian Department of Statistics is going to collect data from 15 thousand state enterprises, state stock companies and the biggest stock corporations. There are 30 thousand private companies, 12 thousand economic firms and 7 thousand stock companies in Lithuania, a considerable number of which avoid providing data on their activities and incomes.

Order of Payment Settlements Established

LD2609143492 Vilnius Radio Vilnius in English 2300 GMT 25 Sep 92

[Text] With the introduction of Lithuanian money as of 1 October the Lithuanian Government has established the order of payment settlements with states in the ruble zone. It has been done with a view to disrupt valueless ruble transfers to Lithuanian bank accounts. The resolution of the government provides that starting from 21 September the payment documents sent from the Ukraine, Belarus, and Azerbaijan concerning the inclusion of rubles into Lithuanian bank accounts should be returned to the central banks of those states.

These banks should also be recommended to include money transfers into the newly opened correspondent accounts of the Bank of Lithuania's enterprises will have to buy in Ukrainian money and the Ukraine's businessmen will have to pay Lithuanian money in Lithuania respectively. This is what the settlement between the two states will look like. Since the Ukrainian roubles are not legal tender in Lithuania they will have to be spent in the Ukraine exclusively.

According to the government's resolution the enterprises that receive money for their exports may spend this money in their export areas. This implies that the enterprises are allowed to buy raw materials and goods as well as to ship them to Lithuania. In the event that the enterprises do not need any goods from a foreign state, they can sell the money to other enterprises or organizations that do need it. The negotiations with Russia are due to take place next week.

There is some disruption in the payment of settlements with Russia and other members of the Commonwealth of Independent States. As a result of this it takes more than several months for transfers to reach destinations. According to the president of the Industrial Association, Algimantas Matulevicius, the industrialists are not yet sure how they will open Lithuanian money accounts in neighboring states and buy goods there.

In an interview to Radio Vilnius, Algimantas Matulevicius said he welcomed the introduction of the national currency, whether it was real or transitional. He also noted that the association had recommended both the current and the former government not to close foreign accounts for enterprises for some time after the Lithuanian money came into circulation, since those states would still let them buy something with that money [as heard]. The president also noted that Lithuania's industrial enterprises were in an extremely difficult financial situation. If payment settlements did not improve, the industry would suffer heavy losses. One more uncertain thing Matulevicius noted was the credit of 70 billion rubles that Russia and other CIS members lent our enterprises. The president of Lithuania's Businessmen Association, Juozas (Sharkus), is sure that the current introduction of the national money and the establishment of order for the payment of settlements would be one more barrier to normal business.

Meanwhile quite a few (?prize) enterprises and stock companies do not in the least worry about the introduction of transitional Lithuanian money. Rather they are concerned about the introduction of the real national currency, the litas, and about its exchange rate for hard currency. Representatives of these enterprises say they are informed that the litas will be introduced within two to three weeks.

Communist Party Holds Underground Meeting

PM2509145992 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Sep 92 p 2

[Ignas Tumenas and Stasis Saulenas "Report From Underground": "Word of Lithuania's Communists"]

[Text] A republic aktiv meeting of the Lithuanian Communist Party, which operates underground, has been held in Moscow Oblast. The question of the situation in Lithuania and the tasks of Communists was discussed.

A resolution was adopted, pointing out, in particular, that, following the ban on the Lithuanian Communist Party, an authoritarian political regime underpinned by a repressive apparatus has become established in the republic. The authorities have accelerated the restoration of capitalism by expropriating and privatizing social property created by working people.

A bourgeoisie of bureaucratic, corrupt, criminal mafioso groups has taken shape and begun to grow rich. It is not only accumulating capital at the expense of impoverishing the majority of the working people but is also subordinating the economy and politics in Lithuania to the interests of foreign capital. In 1992 the crisis, particularly in the economy, has reached a critical stage and begun to escalate into a nationwide catastrophe. The anti-people policy of the Lithuanian leadership headed

by V. Landsbergis has caused dissatisfaction among working sections of the people and formed mass opposition to the authorities.

Communists believe that a way out of the crisis is possible by means of restoring the working people's political power and asserting genuine democracy for the purpose of renewing and developing socialism in Lithuania. For this it is necessary to unite and rally all sections of the republic's working people, regardless of ethnic and religious differences, on the basis of their common social interests. For the purposes of ensuring the people's unity, the Lithuanian Communist Party urges all democratic organizations and movements and parties of a left and centrist orientation to take joint actions and to cooperate. Only their joint, vigorous actions can save the peoples of Lithuania from disaster.